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Night of music

Haliburton resident and Dubliner Phil McMahon plays the tenor banjo during the McKeeks Irish Jam at McKeeks Pub in Haliburton on Wednesday night. More photos on page 9.
Darren Lum Staff

Wolf dies despite vet's efforts

Angelica Blenich

Staff reporter

The only wolf that had been recovered by Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve following a New Year's Eve break-in died over the weekend.

Granite, the alpha female of the pack succumbed to her injuries and died on Saturday, said Peter Schleifenbaum, owner and operator of the privately owned Forest.

"We did everything we could," he said.

Granite was found by Forest staff on the side of a road with bullet wounds and other injuries on Jan. 10.

Haliburton veterinarian Laurie Brown was called to assist with the situation, treating the wolf's injuries after Granite, who was born in 2007, was tranquilized and taken back to the wolf centre.

By the time she was recovered the wolf had lost too much blood and suffered from severe infections, said Brown.

"She needed a blood transfusion, but where do you find wolf blood?" said Brown.

Brown said Granite's injuries were not new, estimating they were at least a week old, if not older.

As of Monday morning, the remaining two wolves, Luna and Lonestar, had still not made their way back into the compound, with Forest staff trying to convince them to return.

"The good news is that the two are still very much around and they're literally hanging around the outside and we feed them there. We've got several strategies in place to try and get them back and hopefully over time ... we will be successful," said Schleifenbaum.

Four wolves had escaped from the nine-wolf pack,

see STAFF page 2

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Staff trying to lure remaining wolves back

from page 1

another wolf is thought to have been killed, while the two remaining wolves have been seen nearby.

According to the Forest's Facebook page Granite received two litres of subcutaneous fluids, antibiotics, trace elements, pain killers, injections, stitches and other treatments to help her wounds heal and overall health improve.

While tending to the wolf Brown discovered two bullet wounds, one bullet going right through the wolf's hind leg while the other one grazed it.

"She was shot at twice, obviously. Whoever did it was a very poor shot, he should go back to marksmanship school," said Schleifenbaum.

Although it hasn't been confirmed, the owner is confident the incident is related to the shooting of Haida, the alpha male wolf who escaped from the compound and was killed and removed by a passing motorist sometime around Jan. 1.

Four wolves escaped from the compound after holes were cut into the surrounding fences.

While no charges have been laid by the OPP in relation to the incident Schleifenbaum continues to hold the opinion the damage was done by an animal rights organization.

He does not believe the vandalism and the shootings are related to one another.

"We're not 100 per cent sure but have very strong evidence that the two [incidents] were totally unconnected," he said.

As a result the wolves are caught in the crossfire between one group who loves them and another who wants to end their lives, said Schleifenbaum.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has confirmed they are investigating the matter. According to the MNR the wolf centre is located within Havelock township, where it is illegal to hunt or trap wolves. The hunting of wolves is not permitted in any of the townships surrounding Algonquin Park.

"However, the wolf centre is close to the boundary of the township and if the wolves move outside the harvest ban area they may be hunted or trapped under the same regulations that apply to any wild wolf in the area," MNR senior media relations officer Jolanta Kowalski told the paper.

The OPP continue to seek information in relation to the incident, however, no charges have been laid.

Schleifenbaum has offered a \$3,000 reward for information about the case that will lead to a criminal charge.

So far the reward has not led to any new information, said Haliburton Highlands acting commander staff Sgt. Chad Bark.

As of Jan. 11 the two juvenile wolves, Luna and Lonestar, were still outside the double fences, with staff trying to lure them using food traps and other devices.

"They were seen this morning just outside of the parking lot of the wolf centre ... they really would like to get back



Staff at the Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve have set out two traps to try and lure two wolves back into the wolf centre compound. The wolves escaped after holes were cut into the surrounding fences on Dec. 31. **Angelica Blenich** Staff



Granite, the alpha female wolf who escaped from the Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve's wolf centre on Dec. 31, rests as she recovers from her wounds. On Jan. 10 Granite was found by Forest staff with bullet wounds in her legs and was immediately treated by Haliburton veterinarian Laurie Brown. Submitted

in and they know that's where their home is," said Schleifenbaum. Staff will continue to work towards getting the wolves back safely and are optimistic this will happen.

To date there has been no thought or discussion of replacing Haida, said Schleifenbaum.

"We are still confident we will be able to reunite that pack ... it's very difficult to bring a new strange wolf into a pack."

A pack is really a family unit and normally not very kind to outside intruders."

The unsocialized animals were raised in captivity, therefore not able to fend for themselves in the wild, Schleifenbaum said. Those with any information about the investigation are being encouraged to contact the Haliburton OPP at 1-888-310-1122, or the Forest at 705-754-2198.

Police have no leads on missing Haliburton man case

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

No new information has come forward in the ongoing missing man investigation in Haliburton Village.

Police are still looking into the case of John Finch, who was reported missing on Dec. 30 and last seen by family members on Dec. 24. Finch, 65, was last seen near his home on Lakeview Avenue. He is described as being five feet, nine inches tall, weighing 150 pounds.

The Central Region Emergency Response Team were searching the neighbouring area on Jan. 4 and OPP were

canvassing neighbours on Jan. 5, collecting any information about Finch's whereabouts. "There hasn't been any new developments unfortunately," said Haliburton Highlands acting commander Staff Sgt. Chad Bark.

The local crime unit is investigating the matter but have no reason to believe foul play or suspicious activity is involved, according to Bark. "We're not treating it as a suspicious missing person. We can't rule out suspicion obviously, because there are a lot of unknowns, we have no evidence of criminality at this point," said Bark.

Police are continuing to reach out to those who might have answers. No charges have been laid.

Correction

In "Husky's heart for game never dies," Jan. 8, the article stated that Scott LaRue played for Scotty Bowman. In fact, he tried out for Bowman's team, the Peterborough Petes. And although LaRue played with Bobby Orr in the exhibition season, his four points came when he played for the Whitby Dunlops and Orr was on the Oshawa Generals.

In last week's Reads of the Month, the article said Lucy Maud Montgomery lived most of her life in Leaside. It was actually Leaside, Ont.

Zoning amendments for Watercolours approved

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

The Ontario Municipal Board approved four provisions to the zoning bylaw for the Watercolours development on Jan. 7 during a hearing held in Dysart et al council chambers.

The changes allow Mady Development Corporation to move forward with their application for approval of a site plan agreement for Watercolours, a decision still pending with the OMB.

Board member Mary-Anne Sills made the decision to approve the four amendments, which were supported by Dysart et al council in September 2010.

"The purpose of this hearing is to deal with the four provisions that need to be incorporated into the zoning bylaw ... the board will only be hearing planning evidence related to those four provisions today," said Sills.

The four changes to the zoning bylaw requested by Mady Development Corpo-

ration include: the building have two loading spaces instead of the required four spaces; maximum lot coverage be increased to 37 per cent instead of the required 25 per cent; each parking space be 2.7-metres wide instead of three metres; and each parking aisle be at least six metres wide instead of seven metres.

Harold Kersey, vice-president planning and development for Mady, was questioned by Allan Patton, legal counsel for the development, on whether the site plan was supported by the municipality.

He said it was and that the municipality



didn't object to zoning changes.

Ian Flett, representing Alison Mack, the appellant, questioned Kersey on whether the proposed building's water source would satisfy the building's demands.

"The issue of stormwater management or groundwater is not in front of the board," said Sills.

The line of questioning was to establish Kersey's credibility as a planner, said Flett.

Sills reminded Flett the board was not making a decision on Kersey's credibility.

Following the cross-examination, Sills asked Kersey why lot coverage needed to be increased.

"It was an error in the interpretation of the lot coverage in the zoning bylaw," said Kersey.

While presenting her decision, Sills argued the provisions did not reflect major changes to the building, but instead represented finer details that developers sorted out during the site plan process.

"Quite frankly, it's not ... uncommon as you go about these processes to find that there needs to be tweaking in terms of some of the standards of the bylaw," said Sills.

The OMB is still awaiting an approved site plan agreement from Watercolours before giving their final order on the project.

The development corporation was unable to give Sills any indication on when an approved agreement that meets the holding provisions might come forward to the board.

Dysart et al approved a draft site plan, with certain holding conditions in place on the zoning bylaw, for Watercolours at their April 23, 2012 meeting.

Sustainable library moving forward in Wilberforce

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

Council members liked what they saw in terms of preliminary plans for a sustainable library to be built in Wilberforce this year.

Members of council were presented with conceptual drawings and ideas at their Jan. 8 meeting, allowing the project to move forward with an anticipated start of April.

Designed by Patrick Marcotte of HavenCraft Design, the 2,000-square-foot facility is being constructed by students in the sustainable building design and construction program of Haliburton's Fleming College.

"I want to give you a big picture idea," said Marcotte about the drawings, noting that nothing was set in stone and plans could change.

The designer said he had left room for different sustainable concepts, depending on what the municipality was interested in, such as the possibility of solar panels on the roof of the building.

Interior plans so far include a children's area, staff room, staff and public washroom and a reading nook.

He had also left a substantial amount of space between the building and parking lot for future expansion, if necessary.

Marcotte presented council with a preliminary construction budget of \$314,400, before tax, a cost of \$157 per square foot.

The numbers, he said, were quite conservative and he was confident the project would come in under budget.

"I feel confident those numbers are within what we can do," he said.



Plans for the new sustainable library to be built in Highlands East were presented to members of council at their Jan. 8 meeting. Designed by Patrick Marcotte of HavenCraft Design, preliminary drawings for the 2,000 square-foot building were well received by council.

Submitted

The designer behind recent sustainable project Abbey Gardens, which was also constructed by the college, Marcotte said he typically estimates budgets high so there are no surprises along the way.

"We won't have concrete numbers until plans are determined," he said.

College representatives Ted Brandon and Chris Lalonde also said they were confident the building would be constructed under budget.

"Community colleges are a lot like councils, they don't like surprises on the numbers so we're very conservative on our numbers," said Brandon.

Brandon suggested a small working group be created to help move the project forward.

Council agreed to form a sub-committee including Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge, chief administrative officer and treasurer Sharon Stoughton-Craig, chief

building officer Randy Dunsmore and Reeve Dave Burton.

To help move the project along members of council agreed to begin working on the proposed design.

"I love it," said Partridge, referring to the concept.

Council passed a resolution establishing the sustainable building sub-committee.

The new library was approved by council at a meeting in November, 2012.

Parks Canada wrong for waterway: MP

Brendan Wedley

QMI Agency

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MP Barry Devolin plans to table a private member's bill to pull Trent-Severn Waterway out of Parks Canada and turn it into an arms-length organization better suited to managing the canal system.

Devolin discussed his plan at Peterborough County council's meeting on Wednesday, stressing that the private member's bill will never pass but that the government could take on the idea to make it happen.

Parks Canada isn't the agency to manage the waterway, Devolin said.

"It's not a park. It's a piece of infrastructure," he said. "It's outside of their area of expertise."

Devolin envisions setting up a Crown corporation to oversee the system, which would be a similar situation to Nav Canada, the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation and Confederation Bridge linking Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick.

The Conservative MP shared he's particularly interested in the governance model at Pearson International Airport in Toronto where a board comprised of representatives from the City of Toronto, the City of Mississauga, the provincial government, the federal government, the business community and other stakeholders manages the airport that's owned by the federal government.

Trent-Severn Waterway's governance model could be similar with a board made up of representatives from

the communities along the system of canals and lakes between Lake Ontario and Georgian Bay, Devolin said.

"I'm cautiously optimistic that we're going to put this on a better footing for the future," he said. "It will be tabled soon ... sending a message to decision makers that this is important."

MPs along the waterway have been lobbying the government to maintain the services along the system. Last year, the federal government's cutbacks to services led Parks Canada to consider scaling back the length of the boating season along its three waterways.

On the Trent-Severn Waterway, the boating season has traditionally extended from Victoria Day weekend in the spring until Thanksgiving in the fall.

That traditional navigational season is being preserved for this year.

Another change has been in the administration of the waterways. Parks Canada has cut jobs at Trent-Severn Waterway headquarters in Peterborough and it merged the management of the Rideau Canal and the Trent-Severn Waterway.

Instead of cutting the length of the season, the managers of the waterway should be looking at ways to attract more people to the system, Devolin said.

Devolin used the example of ski hills to make his point. He told council that ski hills offer season's passes for mid-week and off-peak periods as well as passes geared for the busy times in order to pull more people to the hills.

On the water management side of the operation, which is about 70 to 80 per cent of the role of the waterway, there's been a lot of deferred maintenance of dams,

bridges and locks, Devolin noted.

"We haven't been spending as much as we should have," he said.

North Kawartha Mayor Jim Whelan responded that about 80 per cent of his community's property taxes come from residents who live on waterfront properties.

"The water management end of it is absolutely critical," Whelan said of the waterway.

Devolin led the push to review the waterway, which led to the creation of a panel that put together a report on the future of the system.

It was the right thing to do for the waterway, but the panel maybe wasn't the best thing to do politically because it created expectations, Peterborough MP Dean Del Mastro told county council.

"The waterway is in better physical condition than it has been in for probably more than a decade," Del Mastro said.

The waterway serves a water management role, supports tourism and helps supply green energy through hydroelectric generating facilities built along the system, Del Mastro said.

"It's not a very good business. It costs a lot of money and it doesn't bring much in. It's expensive," he added. "It's more than simply a piece of infrastructure, it's part of who we are."

County council members encouraged the MPs to take action.

"We need you guys to make the right move on this, no matter what happens," Warden J. Murray Jones said. "We've got to make this the best it can be."



A little extra help

The Haliburton realtors Greg Metcalfe, Chris Smolarz, Ken Barry, Andrew Hodgson, Jacquie Richards, Dagmar Boettcher and Lisa Mercer presented a cheque for \$2,190 to Debbie Cumber and Catharine Carr of Cottage Dreams. The Canadian Realtors Care Foundation is real estate's national charitable foundation and was founded in 2007.

Darren Lum Staff

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Chamber presents business plan to members

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce has a plan to develop business in the county and is hoping to gain the support of local government as well as its members.

First Stop-Haliburton Highlands was presented by chamber president Eric Thompson to the members at their monthly breakfast held at Hali's Bistro on Jan. 10.

With the goal of attracting and retaining businesses in the Highlands, the plan would see a partnership formed between the chamber, local government and the Haliburton County Development Corporation.

With the tagline "from desk to dock in five minutes," the idea is to lure entrepreneurs to the area by advocating the lifestyle offered in the Highlands, said Thompson.

"We see the chamber as the No. 1 spot for anyone wanting to set-up a business in Haliburton," he said.

Thompson along with director Peter Brady delivered the plan to Haliburton County council members in December, requesting \$50,000 from the county and a commitment of three to five years.

The chamber will also be visiting the four lower tier municipalities and seeking an additional \$10,000 from each.

The plan is a result of no unified strategy for growth, with business development being mostly reactive and not proactive, said Thompson.

Thompson argued there would be many benefits to implementing a strategy and strengthening the business community, such as a larger tax base.

"Each business and family is a county asset," he said.

Thompson was asked what the initial reception from county council was when presented with the plan.

"Quiet," he said.

While the chamber has not yet heard from county council on what their intentions are, Thompson said he believes there are those who see the need for a strategy.

"It will be a hill to climb," he said.

Others expressed concern that potential new businesses will get delayed at the government level.

"I was in the room when you made the presentation, I don't think they understood it. I'm worried there's going to be a stall," said Sally Moore, owner and operator of Sunny Rock Bed and Breakfast.

Thompson said the chamber has had many conversations with the county.

"This is not going to be put on the shelf and stopped," he said.

While the plan does include a partnership with HCDC, the chamber would have to apply for funding opportunities on a yearly basis, just like everyone else, said



Angelica Blenich Staff

Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce president Eric Thompson presents First Stop Haliburton Highlands at the organization's monthly breakfast held at Hali's Bistro on Jan. 10. The presentation outlined a business development plan the chamber is working on and hoping will receive financial support from local government.

Thompson.

"HCDC is often the first stop for new businesses so it's a good idea to partner with them," said Dale Walker.

Thompson said this would benefit existing businesses by offering workshops and resources such as a consumer survey.

While he couldn't speak on behalf of

county council, board director Bram Lebo said he didn't believe the county was keen on giving the organization money.

"We probably have to undertake this project ourselves," said Lebo.

The chamber was planning on moving forward with the plan in the coming months.

Dogsled Derby postponed

Organizers hope to host event Feb. 23 to 24.

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

Persistent precipitation and warm temperatures are leaving organizers of the Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby scratching their heads.

As a result, the 11th Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby that includes skijoring and the kid and mutt class is getting postponed for several weeks. The Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre will remain the hosts.

Tanya McCready, with husband Hank DeBruin of Winterdance Dogsled Tours, founded and has helped organize the event since it started.

McCready is optimistic winter weather will return, but was surprised by the warm spell.

Everything will go exactly as planned before the postponement, she said.

She welcomes additional volunteers and sponsorships.

Each year it seems to get harder to draw sponsors. McCready said the purse was close

to \$13,000 at the height of popularity. Last year it was down to \$5,000. Despite the smaller purse mushers still make a point of coming to the Highlands.

"We talked to all the mushers and said, 'Are you still willing to come for less money?' They're like, 'Absolutely.' So, they were really good. Last year we cut the purse in half. So that was kind of our plan this year. Hopefully we can get it back up, but if not we know they'll still come regardless," she said. "The mushers tell us when they come it is one of their favourite races of the winter so why not put it on?"

Like last year, the event boasts an artisans' area showcasing local art along with the weekend of races.

New this year will be the skijoring (a person on Nordic skis is pulled by a dog(s)) lessons. It is open to anyone and will be on Saturday and Sunday. There is no pre-registration and no equipment is needed.

Two years ago the derby was cancelled due to the warm weather. Although in that year the combination of the weather and a lack of sponsorships contributed to the cancellation.

For more information visit www.haliburtondogsledderby.com.

The originally scheduled date for the event was changed before the Haliburton County Living press date and is now tentatively scheduled.

Little response to county sign bylaw review

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Haliburton County residents don't seem to care much about the county's sign bylaw review, for which it has been seeking public input.

In the fall, the county put out a public survey, approaching property owners' associations for feedback.

Two of the major issues are whether to allow more field advertising - billboards - along county roads and whether to restrict realtor directional signage, the sort often tacked on trees.

At a Jan. 9 roads committee meeting, roads director Doug Ray said response to the survey has been extremely low.

Thirty-two people have viewed the survey and 16 have responded.

"Unfortunately, there was nothing from any of the associations it was sent to," Ray said, adding his hope had been to bring a draft of the revised bylaw to committee in February.

"If they comment now we can get some of those into the draft bylaw before we bring

it to committee."

Ray said he's been looking at sign bylaws in neighbouring municipalities for comparison.

The draft 2013 county roads budget is for \$5.9 million, with approximately \$2.5 million for road and bridge construction, \$2.6 million for maintenance, \$530,000 in wages, benefits, vacation and training, and \$280,000 in engineering costs.

It uses approximately \$500,000 in gas tax revenue and draws \$160,000 from reserves.

County council will be reviewing the 2013 budget at the end of the month.

— Doug Ray

If they comment now we can get some of those into the draft bylaw before we bring it to committee.

points of view

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Making tracks

photo by Darren Lum

Positive move

CREDIT IS DUE the school board and local school communities for moving forward with the positive space signs and having difficult discussions around sexual orientation and acceptance.

In September, we reported that the board was moving slowly on positive space signs, which promote understanding and acceptance of gay, bisexual and transgendered members of our society.

Board members were concerned that the subject matter of the signs could be too advanced for some primary grade students.

There was also push-back from some parents in the Trillium Lakelands District School Board.

After several months of consultations and discussions, nearly every school in Haliburton County now has the signs up.

According to the director of education, discussions went well with some schools having overwhelming support for the signs (Archie Stouffer Elementary School), while others had mostly positive (J.D. Hodgson and Haliburton High) and mixed (Cardiff and Wilberforce) reactions.

Stuart Baker Elementary School is still mulling over the signs, as it is a primary school and the board isn't yet sure how the concept of sexual orientation should be addressed.

When the signs were met with mixed reaction, principals were given discre-

tion as to where those signs will go. Often they ended up in the principals' offices. When reaction was positive, those signs went in a high traffic location such as the main foyer or office.

These are good steps – one part of a comprehensive anti-bullying and acceptance program our schools have been diligent in enforcing.

And while the signs have been mounted, the process isn't finished.

Discussions around sexual orientation and acceptance of those from all walks of life is an ongoing activity.

As each generation moves through the schools, the conversation must be started anew, with hopes that each group is more welcoming than the last.

New CEO

Haliburton Highlands Health Services has an intrepid new CEO and president: Varouj Eskedjian.

The administrator comes to the Highlands looking for the small-town feel with experience in government and other, larger hospitals.

Incredibly, despite the next three years budgeted with no funding increase for our hospitals, Eskedjian is optimistic.

He sees it as an opportunity to look at things differently and be inventive.

That's exactly the mentality HHHS needs until money flows again from government coffers.

Here's to creative thinking.



Jenn Watt
Editor

Collecting dinner

WHEN IT COMES to collecting dinner, a lot of new ice fishermen get it all wrong. Some actually believe that they are supposed to bring home fish on a regular basis.

As any experienced angler knows, nothing could be further from the truth.

You see; if you bear gifts of delicious fish every time you return from ice fishing, two things will eventually happen.

First, this will lead to unfortunate involuntary responses from your family – like drooling whenever you return from the ice hut.

This is bad, especially if you routinely lock yourself out of the house, as I do. Then, your family is in danger of associating delicious lake trout, walleye or panfish with the desperate ringing of the doorbell. Trust me, there's nothing more awkward than having a drooling kid answer the door when the telephone service technician rings the bell – unless, of course, it is a drooling wife.

Consistently catching fish also leads to another unfortunate side effect – having to go out again.

This is why it is far better to make your angling success completely unpredictable, as I do. If you do it right, your family will look upon your chances of bringing home fish in the same way they look upon winning a lottery – as in, yes, it would be nice, but don't count on it.

There is a fine balance between both extremes that you should try to achieve. You don't want your successes to be so



Steve Galea
Loon Tales

random that your spouse faints when you announce that you brought home another keeper. This too is embarrassing, especially if it happens when you bring home a handsome fishing buddy.

What you are looking for is the right balance. That typically means not enough success to keep them drooling, but just enough to justify the proposed purchase of an ice hut, snow machine, gas powered auger, new lures, several fishing rods and various types of highly expensive electronic gadgetry.

The problem is that getting skunked on our lakes is not an easy thing to do these days. In fact, almost any idiot can catch a limit.

Last week, for instance, I did.

And that unfortunate event meant I had to walk into the house and prepare a dinner of fish I had actually caught.

Suddenly, the precarious balance I had worked so hard to attain was in danger. I could almost sense that Jenn, if only for a moment, began to harbor fantasies of my consistent fishing success.

So I took her aside and did the best damage control I could.

"You know there are lots of times when I don't catch my limit," I said.

"I know," she said.

"You know I'm not the greatest ice fisherman in the world," I added.

"You're not even close," she said.

It was a very near thing, but I think I restored the balance. Even so, I'll get skunked two more times before I ask about buying the auger.



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points of view

Different strokes

I COULD NEVER LIVE in the country," Amelia stated with conviction, swirling the white wine in her glass. Andrea watched her sister's hand lightly twirl the crystal stem and made no reply. Around them bodies were bunched at or near the bar, the lighting dimly flattering to the faces reflected in many mirrors. Insistent music pulsed and Andrea had to lean forward to hear her sister's words.

She had heard these declarations before. Almost always they were from people who knew no more about country living than Andrea knew about brain surgery. Uninformed opinions, she always thought. After all, how could anyone not enjoy the space, the slower pace of life and the beauty of the natural world that she so treasured?

Earlier in the day Andrea had sat in the small parking lot off a back laneway while Amelia had made a quick run into the convenience store. Apartment buildings – or were they condominiums? – flanked either side of the lot. Each unit had a minuscule balcony many of which looked to be used for storage. She could not imagine inhabiting what appeared so cramped and artificial a space. People scurried in and out of their parked cars, pushing against a wind funnelled between the high-rises.

Now they sat waiting for a table for dinner, sipping wine and comparing lifestyles as the city flowed around them. Amelia was trying to catch the eye of a good looking fellow sitting alone at the next table. Andrea sighed. Some things never changed, including her sister's persistent flirting with anything in pants. Lack of eligible males was another reason Amelia would never choose the rural life. On those rare occasions when she came to visit her sister, she never failed to remark on the dearth of men with all their teeth, hair and fashion sense. Of course she exaggerated.

Finally their name was called and an attractive young woman in tight black clothing led them to a table. Settling in to scan the menu Andrea admitted it was enjoyable to experience the variety a cosmopolitan city offered. Whether it was food or faces from around the world and all that those faces brought with them, such rich diversity could not be found in her own home territory. There restaurant fare was mostly predictable and not only did she recognize virtually everyone on the street but also knew where they lived, what they drove and their dogs' names. Of course she exaggerated. But not much.

Despite the flashy surroundings and elaborate menu their meal was mediocre and the service poor. Amelia insisted on treating her poor country sister and Andrea graciously accepted. Next they were heading to a movie where Andrea planned to pay for both tickets. Fair is fair. The cinema was within walking distance and as they lowered their heads, steeling themselves against the ever-present wind, Andrea chalked up another advantage to her sister's city home. Amelia could exist quite easily without a car living as she did in such a concentration of facilities and services. For Andrea, there was no such thing as zipping into the corner store for a loaf of bread. A 20 minute drive over sometimes treacherous roads was common. Of course, she planned ahead to avoid this expense and inconvenience. Usually.

The movie theatre's lobby was wall-to-wall people and after Andrea had paid, all the two women could do was wait with the others until it was time to enter their particular screening. Flashing lights and sounds enticed them to buy junk food or play games to push away any possibility of boredom. It seemed some folks needed to be constantly amused or fed, every sense pummelled into a docile state of satisfaction. Andrea was very glad when it was time for them to take their seats.

Set in Hawaii, the movie's plot made use of this setting to tell a poignant story of loss, redemption and family relationships. Even in Hollywood a sense of place could be valued. By the time they had walked back to Amelia's home, Andrea was exhausted. The wine, the food, the movie and the stimulation was now almost overwhelming. In the morning she would be up early and have a three hour drive to her own home.

As she listened to the buses coughing up and down her sister's street and breathed in the hot dry furnace heat of the guest bedroom, Andrea thought of the quiet stars and silent deer that were probably feasting on her backyard birdfeeder at that very moment. Sedate though it might be, there was no place like home.



Sharon Lynch
Down our Road



pic of the past

Boy Scouts Hall around 1948. Teacher Mrs. Andison. Submitted by Shirley Johnson. If you have a pic of the past you'd like to submit, bring it to the *Echo* at 146 Highland St. or email tara.oreilly@sunmedia.ca.

Do you believe?

AS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT agency, our greatest accomplishment in any given year is to raise funds and awareness for what we do as an agency and to successfully deliver programs to our neighbours. The what and how has historically been the messaging required for communication purposes to the general public. Taking this one step further, I gave some thought to what it means to engage others in our agency, not just from a financial donor perspective, but from a general engagement one - explaining to others the why behind what we do.

What we get to do each and every year here at SIRCH is "sell" what we do. We sell our program ideas to potential funders, we sell our culture to potential volunteers, we sell our annual activities and program implementation to potential donors. We do this by highlighting WHAT we do (programming) and HOW we do it (ran a farm tour for the county to increase education on locally grown food) and I have always thought that we are clear on the WHY we do it until today.

For a not-for-profit, the WHY is everything, isn't it? For individuals, I think the WHY should be the first question on our lips when we undertake any activity, initiative, endeavour. I don't think we do this nearly regularly enough, nor with enough verve and vigour. And herein lies a connection I had never thought of: the WHY is linked to our fundamental beliefs surrounding the work that we do. So, really, it is not nec-



Nancy Brownsberger
SIRCH

essarily a message of WHY, it is a message of I BELIEVE. Of course, according to many psychologists, belief is just simply our brain's limbic system choosing to make irrational decisions based on our emotional state "Belief is the psychological state in which an individual holds a proposition or premise to be true," the Wikipedia page on the subject reads.

For a not-for-profit, the why we do what we do is inextricably bound to belief - our belief that every person has value; that every person has intrinsic strengths and abilities to share; that how we treat the most vulnerable in our community defines us as a community; that everyone individually can make a difference, but that as a community that difference can become exponential. At SIRCH we are making a difference in the world. This extends to our volunteers, whose blood, sweat and tears are fuelled by a belief that what they do makes a difference. And the community at large, donors and partners also require this belief in order to be engaged, donate and support. The great thing about this, the "ah ha" moment for me is that we all SHARE a similar set of beliefs that bind us together!

I suppose the point could have been simply stated at the beginning of this article, but I wanted to share this journey of thought with you in order to get to this: it is a common thread of belief that fuels our beautiful county - belief that we can and do make a difference, belief in the kindness of others, belief that things will change for the better that makes our feet hit the ground most mornings. Aldous Huxley is quoted as say-

see SAY page 8

Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme

Greg Roe



Music Notes

Ideas for this column can come from the strangest places. Such is the case this time around. I was in the grocery store picking up some fresh herbs and for some reason decided to do a little math. Not my favourite pastime. What I discovered was that herbs are very expensive. For example, the sage that I had in my hand was running at about \$25 a pound! Further delving

resulted in similar findings about other herbs. My appetite was waning!

It was at this point that I ran into our amiable editor, Jenn, who kindly reminded me of the next deadline for this column. That was when my mind switched from the money/food connection to the music/food connection. As it turns out, there is a "garden" of possibilities. (I can hear the groans!).

The title of this month's column is, of course, courtesy of

Simon and Garfunkel.

Then there are songs like *The Mashed Potato*, *The Funky Chicken*, *Vegetables*, by the Beach Boys, and a classic by Guy Clark entitled *Home Grown Tomatoes (A Love Song)*. A couple of these are a little obscure, but what about tunes like *A Taste of Honey*, *American Pie*, *Bread and Butter* or *Cheeseburger in Paradise*. Everyone knows these and for some the tune will come to mind and drive you crazy all day!

Then my mind drifted to groups whose names are food related. For example, Bread, Humble Pie, The Honeycombs (for you Boomers out there), Vanilla Fudge, Smashing Pumpkins, Red Hot Chili Peppers, April Wine and Peaches and Herb (think about that one). And for you meat lovers, Meatloaf. It goes on and on. A veritable all-you-can-eat buffet of names.

Not wanting to be stuck in one genre I started looking into classical and jazz/blues. In classical I found pieces like *The Coffee Cantata*, by J S Bach and *Four hors d'oeuvres* by Rossini and on a more contemporary 'classical' note there is *The Seasonings* by P. D. Q. Bach. The one that really got me though was the Vienna Vegetable Orchestra. Their instruments are things like carrots, pumpkins and zucchini

and when they are done, they eat their instruments! Gotta love it.

In the jazz/blues field you have *Cheesecake*, and *Potato Head Blues* by Louis Armstrong, *All That Meat and No Potatoes* by Fats Waller, *Salt Peanuts* by Dizzy Gillespie, Coleman Hawkins's *Fine Dinner* and Nina Simone's *I Want Some Sugar In My Bowl*. There are many more in this genre and others, but the jazz/blues tunes tend to be rife with double entendre.

As well, many music festivals, particularly in the folk, jazz and blues fields are closely tied to food and eating. Think of the New Orleans Jazz Festival. Food is also a staple for song parodies. Weird Al Yankovic's *Eat It* is a savory example.

Well, it is amazing what can happen when you are standing at the vegetable counter.

First, I seem to have become overcome with "corny" asides. Oh well, now I have to figure out what I am going to do with a pound of sage!

I wonder if it freezes well?

Greg Roe hosts It's Only Rock and Roll, alternating Friday nights, on 100.9 CanoeFM, your volunteer, community radio station. Comments on this column are welcomed.

Say I believe, I believe, I believe

from page 7

ing "Before your feet hit the ground each morning repeat these words, I believe, I believe, I believe." What will fuel your fire this New Year? What do you believe in?

Happy New Year, may the year ahead be fuelled with optimistic belief and an understanding of the why behind what you do each day to make the world a better place.

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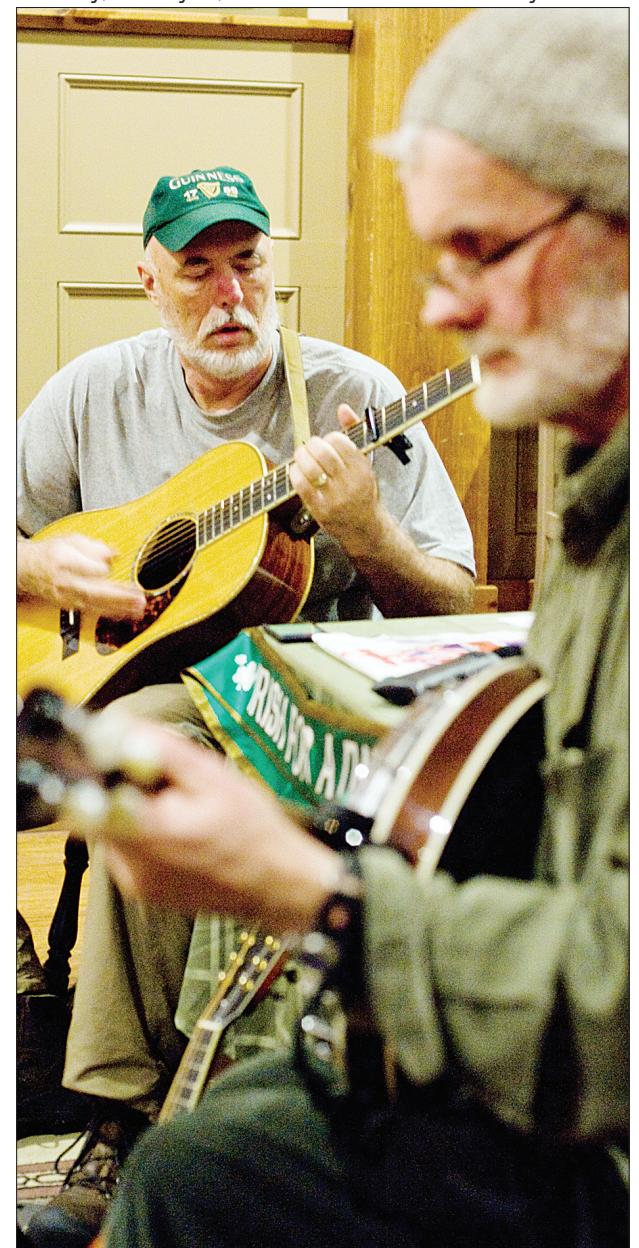
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Irish licks

The sounds of Ireland came alive last week in Haliburton. From left, Wilberforce resident Ernie Demuth on the bodhran (Celtic drum) performs, Haliburton resident Phil McMahon plays and Brian Sachs strums his guitar during the McKecks Irish Jam at the McKecks Pub in Haliburton on Wednesday night. This weekly event on Wednesdays offers Irish traditional music. It is open to the public to attend, including musicians and singers and is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Contact McMahon for information: 647-929-3474 and banjomando53@rogers.blackberry.net.

Haliburton County Folk Society receives \$8,000

Local MP Barry Devolin announced an \$8,000 investment in the Haliburton County Community Cooperative on Thursday, Jan. 10.

The HCCC applied for funding on behalf of one of its six major members, The Haliburton County Folk Society, which produces an annual series of folk music concerts between April 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014.

Sean Pennylegion, artistic director for Folk Society Concert Series, is thrilled at the opportunities the infusion of funds will bring for the group.

"It's money that is much appreciated and will be well

used," he said.

The series will feature six concerts and related outreach activities by artists from four provinces and two countries, and will take place at four different venues in Haliburton County. Based on the previous year's figures, the expected attendance for the festival's activities in 2013-2014 is 400.

"Supporting the arts and culture that bring people from outside Haliburton County to the area during the traditional non-tourist season is essential to keeping our economy on track," said Devolin.

"Events such as this are even more important this year as

we start the five-year countdown to Canada's 150th birthday, in 2017."

"Our government is proud to invest in the Haliburton County Folk Society, which will host concerts that will contribute to our collective identity and define who we are as Canadians. On the road to 2017, let us continue to celebrate all of the things that make Canada the united, prosperous, and free country we are today."

The funding is provided through the Canada Arts Presentation Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.



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New HHHS CEO up to the challenge

Varouj Eskedjian starts his tenure in Haliburton facing era of fiscal restraint – with relish

Jenn Watt
Editor

The first CEO Varouj Eskedjian worked for gave him a piece of advice that has followed him throughout his career.

"If you've got all sorts of money, you really don't have to manage, you just throw money at the problem ... but when you don't have that financial discretion and dollars available, that's when the true managers come out."

It's advice Eskedjian will soon be putting into practice as the new president and CEO of Haliburton Highlands Health Services, the corporation that handles both of Haliburton County's hospitals, its long-term care units and mental health services.

The Liberal government recently announced that health services wouldn't be receiving any increase in funding for the next three years.

Meanwhile, pre-negotiated labour agreements and inflation guarantee costs will be going up between two and three per cent a year.

"When you've got less discretion in terms of a small budget, then you have to be really creative and efficient to ensure that you maintain your level of services," Eskedjian said.

"My intent and my goal is to ensure that we maintain all of our services, if not enhance them," Eskedjian said on his sixth day as head of the corporation.

Originally from Sudbury, the hospital administrator has worked in London, Orillia and Lindsay at much bigger hospitals than Haliburton.

He said he came here for the community hospital environment.

"I like the community hospital feel because the community is invested in its hospitals," he said.

In Haliburton County, staff members are likely to be serving their neighbours, friends and family; it keeps everyone more



Jenn Watt Staff

Haliburton Highlands Health Services CEO Varouj Eskedjian started his new job at the beginning of January, 2013. Eskedjian has worked in Orillia and Lindsay before coming to Haliburton.

accountable.

The CEO is tasked with steering the entire corporation. He manages the managers and sets the agenda.

He talks to the bureaucrats and builds bridges with community groups.

With such a wide range of possibilities, Eskedjian has narrowed his focus to five priorities: integration, budget, safety, work environment and enhancement.

In a landscape of cutbacks, the health-care leader said he believes improvements can still happen – you just have to be creative.

The example he gives is tool sterilization. It used to be done in Haliburton, but now equipment is shipped to Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay where there are better services.

"When the accreditation surveyors were here ... they identified the way we sterilized our instruments as not necessarily meeting the current benchmarks and gold standards. It's difficult as a very small organization because it requires a level of expertise and investment in terms of your equipment and people," he said.

The turnaround time at Ross Memorial was quick enough to accommodate HHHS's needs, it saved money and enhanced quality.

Eskedjian hopes more collaboration can happen.

"We're looking at enhancements through partnerships," he said.

In the same breath, he said he is aware of the board of directors' desire to keep governance in Haliburton.

Top of the capital expenditures list this year: the Haliburton hospital's second palliative care suite.

The suite is at the proposal stage, with approval from the Central East Local Health Integration Network. There's no timeline on when approval from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care might come.

As for the CT scanner, an idea that has been batted around for years by the HHHS board, Eskedjian said that is more of a long-term project that needs to be carefully considered first.

Despite all of the potential bumps on the road ahead, Eskedjian is eager to get started.

"Even though it's a difficult time, I also find it to be an exciting time because I think challenges present opportunities," he said.

Flu on the rise at emergency department, vaccination urged

There has been a "dramatic" increase in patients arriving at Haliburton's emergency rooms with influenza-like symptoms, a release from Haliburton Highlands Health Services says.

This corresponds with a provincewide increase in cases of the illness.

The release suggested that area residents consider being vaccinated.

"Fortunately, this year's flu vaccination is a match for the strain that is being spread in the community," the release says.

"If you haven't been vaccinated, please

consider getting the shot to protect yourself and your loved ones."

Flu shots are available at Rexall, Haliburton Highlands Pharmacy beside the CIBC and from family doctors. There is no charge.

Symptoms of the flu are fever, cough, weakness, lethargy, body aches and headache. It can be given to someone else up to a day before symptoms arise and five days after.

If you have symptoms, you can go online at www.ontario.ca/flu and fill out a self-

screening tool to determine if you should stay home or seek help.

If you have the flu and don't feel better in a few days, you can call telehealth at 1-866-797-0000, call your health-care provider or go to the walk-in clinic at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon.

"People who are feeling ill are not to visit patients and residents [of HHHS]," the release says.

"Those who must come to the hospital are asked to pay extra attention to their

hand hygiene and wear a mask when in patient care and resident areas."

According to a December press release from the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit, there were fewer people visiting flu vaccine clinics this year than last, which was common across Ontario.

More than 2,500 were vaccinated against the flu at the community clinics across the health unit region.

New Year's song owed to Robert Burns

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

New Year's celebrations wouldn't be complete without the Scottish national poet Robert Burns.

His song *Auld Lang Syne* is sung the world over when the clock chimes midnight.

You might not know the lyrics, but this New Year's eve (Hogmanay in Scotland) song is credited to the famous poet.

Every year, people around the world celebrate Burns with ceremony, reciting and singing his many works, and eating a dinner featuring haggis (sheep innards encased in sheep stomach) with side of neeps and tatties on his birthday Jan. 25. Burns was known to have regularly amended and improved old songs.

He was born in Alloway, Scotland 254 years ago.

Although his father was a poor farmer, Burns received a good education.

When he was 15, he started to write songs to impress girls.

At the age of 25 his father died. Burns and his brother took over the farm.

He continued to write songs and added poems inspired by his agriculture life.

As he struggled to farm, he had thoughts of travelling overseas.

However, this was when his first book of poetry was published. It became a hit with readers in Edinburgh. After spending time in the city, he returned to west Scotland and married. The money from his first book ran out. Through friends he found work as a customs officer, enabling him to write.

These poems were influenced by the French Revolution and often spoke of how the rich and poor should be equal.

Burns died at 37. His funeral was in Dumfries, Scotland.

In Canada, the common name for the event is Robbie Burns Day. However, in Scotland the occasion is known as Burns Supper or Burns Night.

Come celebrate this poet's achievements with the Robbie Burns Day celebration at the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton on Jan. 26. This event will include a buffet and, most likely, in true Scottish fashion be presented as a ceilidh (pronounced kay-lee) or Scottish party with music, dancing and storytelling. This event will also be a fundraiser for the Haliburton Highland Games, which was missed last year.

Earl Cooper, a West Guilford resident synonymous with the bagpipes in the Highlands, appreciates the history and the traditions of Scotland.

He admits his Scottish blood runs thinly from his mother's side, as his family emigrated from England. However, that doesn't lessen the importance of participating in Robbie Burns events for Cooper.

The Haliburton Highlanders Pipes and Drums Band member since it was formed in 1970 never thought the band's participation would help preserve Scottish traditions until now. Cooper, who started to learn how to play the bagpipes in 1942, said the band's involvement started merely as a showcase.

It feels good to "be part of that tradition."

Glossary
neeps = Swedes (a type of turnip)
tatties = potatoes

* source: the BBC website and the U.S. Library of Congress blog site.



Earl Cooper reads from a poem written by famous Scottish poet Robert Burns a day after Robert Burns Day. Cooper toasted Burns during the Robert Burns Day event last year. Darren Lum/File photo

After Queen Victoria and Christopher Columbus, Robert Burns has more statues dedicated to him around the world than any other non-religious figure.

The Soviet Union was the first country in the world to honour Burns with a commemorative stamp, marking the 160th anniversary of his death in 1956.

American music legend Bob Dylan selected Burns's 1794 song *A Red, Red Rose* when asked for the source of his greatest creative inspiration.

John Steinbeck took the title of his 1937 novel *Of Mice and Men* from a line contained in Burns's poem *To a Mouse*: "The best laid schemes o' mice an' men/Gang aft agley."

Auld Lang Syne is recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records as being one of the top three most popular songs in the English language. The other two are *Happy Birthday* and *For he's a jolly good fellow*.

American president Abraham Lincoln had a lifelong admiration for the work of Robert Burns, with some claiming that the poet's verse played a key role in helping Lincoln win the American civil war and abolish slavery.

Burns's body was exhumed in 1815 to be placed in a new mausoleum in Dumfries. While his body was above ground, a plaster cast of his skull was taken for study. The skull was measured and discovered to be bigger than the average man's.

* source www.scotland.org



The attendees applaud at the conclusion of the toast to the haggis ceremony of the first ever Robert Burns Day celebration hosted by the Haliburton County Historical Society at the Maple Lake United Church last year. /File photo

Abbey Gardens fosters rare Ontario ponies

Abbey Gardens has taken the first step in its goal to become a heritage breeding and demonstration facility, with the fostering of two rare Lac La Croix Indian ponies.

A stallion and a mare that is in foal arrived in early December and are getting used to their new home in Haliburton County and the volunteers who are caring for them. The ponies are named Biminajikawa and Wishkossiwika, respectively (these Ojibway names mean to pursue and sweet grass) although their nicknames are much easier to pronounce – Chase and Siwika (pronounced See-kah).

Lac La Croix Indian ponies are descendants of an incredibly rare breed that is thought to have evolved in the 19th century when the Canadian horse and Spanish mustangs interbred. By the 1970s the breed was virtually extinct – the total number of true Lac La Croix ponies numbering less than 20. However, thanks to dedicated individuals and organizations including Rare Breeds Canada, the Lac La Croix Indian Pony Society and a number of private breeders the ponies are making a comeback and today there are around 120 in existence.

Jo MacArthur, general manager at Abbey Gardens, explains why the organization wanted to get involved: "These ponies are an important part of Canada's living history and we feel honoured to be able to assist with the Lac La Croix breeding program. Siwika and Chase are also the beginning of our planned rare breeds demonstration facility, which, when opened, will be home to a variety of heritage breeds, all of which were once common to farms and homesteads in Ontario."

MacArthur goes on to state that the breeds such as the Lac La Croix will thrive in Haliburton County because they have evolved naturally in the Ontario wilderness, rather than being bred to suit large scale farming.

"These are the animals that were meant to be bred and farmed in rural areas such as ours and it is important for their sur-

vival and our food security (in the case of pork, poultry and beef) that we ensure that they are reintroduced and encouraged to flourish," she says.

Jane Mullen, of the Lac La Croix Indian Pony Society, agrees: "Being developed and bred in northwestern Ontario, the Lac La Croix is extremely suitable for the Haliburton climate, both summer and winter, and will excel living outdoors; in fact, they prefer it.

"We are very pleased to welcome Abbey Gardens as the newest members of our group of host farmers who are helping to ensure the survival of the Lac La Croix Indian Pony. Visit Abbey Gardens, check out at our ponies and help make a difference."

Lindley McPhail, chairman of Rare Breeds Canada, also states the case for Abbey Gardens' rare breed demonstration facility: "I am delighted that Abbey Gardens is looking to bring back heritage livestock to the Haliburton Highlands. Heritage livestock is extremely hardy, requiring less in the way of winter protection than most modern day livestock and often growing fat grazing on land other livestock would starve on. The Lac La Croix ponies are a great start and I hope they will soon be followed by other breeds. We look forward to a long and fruitful partnership with Abbey Gardens."

- Submitted by Abbey Gardens



Darren Lum Staff

The Abbey Gardens now boasts heritage breed Lac La Croix Indian Ponies stallion Biminajikawa (meaning pursue in Ojibway), left, and mare Wishkossiwika (meaning sweet grass in Ojibway). In the 1970s there were only 20 ponies and now there are 120 ponies. This is a step for the Gardens in becoming a "planned rare breeds demonstration facility."

July completion date for affordable housing project

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

The affordable housing complex being constructed along County Road 21 just outside Haliburton Village is expected to be completed on July 31 of this year.

Construction on the 24-unit building, a project of the Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton Housing Corporation, began in the summer, with prep work taking place previously.

It was announced in the fall of 2011 that the corporation was receiving \$2.9 million from the federal-provincial Affordable

Housing for Ontario program.

The entire share was put towards the construction of the building.

Each unit in the three-storey complex, which is intended for seniors, will have one bedroom. It will also feature a laundry room, common room and elevator.

"The rent is based on 80 per cent of the average market rent for the area as published by the CMHC [Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation]," housing corporation CEO Hope Lee wrote in an email. "This means at initial occupancy, these units will rent for \$686 per month, utilities included."

Applicants must complete applications by visiting the City of Kawartha Lakes website or the office at 322 Kent St. West in Lindsay or other housing provider locations in the area.

"Applicants must meet household income limits, which for a one-bedroom unit is \$26,500," Lee wrote. "Since this building is for seniors, one member of the household must be at least 60 years of age."

The City of Kawartha Lakes, which acts as the social services provider for Haliburton County, maintains waiting lists for the city and the county, respectively.

"Along with accepting applications from

new applicants, we will also be contacting applicants currently on our list for the Haliburton area to see if they are interested in this project," Lee wrote.

The list is chronological, meaning those who've been on it the longest are generally housed first.

"There are two priority categories," Lee wrote. "The first is a provincial category for victims of domestic violence. The second is for those with special needs."

Three of the units will be built with accessibility for those with disabilities.

Haliburton County is one of the poorest municipalities in Ontario.



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County looks to grow Hike Haliburton Festival

Tourism department hopes to target Chinese market

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

County council is looking to ramp up the Hike Haliburton Festival in 2013.

Members of the county's tourism development committee received a final report on the 2012 festival at their Jan. 9 meeting.

The fall event, which celebrated its 10th anniversary, drew more than 1,200 people to some 50 events.

While councillors were happy with the turnout, there was discussion about how to grow what is considered the county's signature event.

Leading that charge was Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid, who felt the county needed to better advertise the festival outside of its borders.

Reid noted that for the 2012 event, some eight per cent of participants had sought overnight accommodations.

"What that means is that most of the people attending the event are coming

from within the county, which means you're really just recycling existing money," she said.

Tourism co-ordinator Maria Micallef said there had been marketing outside the county, which is why the percentage of overnighters had grown to eight per cent from a previous two.

"I'm not sure we've allocated enough advertising dollars outside of the county to really maximize this event" Reid said.

Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt agreed that the festival needed more funding.

There is \$25,000 for the festival in the draft 2013 budget. There is also anticipated revenue of \$4,500 from donations and sponsors. Last year that amount ended up being more than \$9,200. The county is also applying for a Celebrate Ontario grant of \$12,800 towards the event.

"If we're going to be serious about this event, let's budget to go after major sponsorship," Reid said. "Let's talk to Mountain [Equipment] Co-op, let's talk to Sporting Life. Let's talk to people about trying to get that [sponsorship] number up to \$10,000 because then you can take the difference and put it right down in your advertising line. If you shoot low, you'll stay low."

Reid also wanted to know why the

county was not applying for a larger amount from Celebrate Ontario.

Chief administrative officer Jim Wilson said a condition of Celebrate Ontario is that applicants must apply for a different reason than they have in the past.

Last year the county got some \$14,000 from Celebrate Ontario, which it used towards some of the special events to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the festival.

This year it would be using the money to go after the Chinese market.

Micallef said that asking for higher amounts lowers the chances of getting approved.

"If you go to the \$40,000, your chances of getting approved are very slim," she said.

Reid also questioned the necessity of Haliburton County continuing to have a presence at the Cottage Life show.

"I think that money should be redirected into advertising on Hike Haliburton or advertising against certain target groups," she said.

Micallef said she somewhat agreed, but found value in the Cottage Life show.

"The problem is getting that cottager in our face," she said. "They don't always stop at the info centre."

"It's because they don't want to," Reid said. "I think we need to accept the fact

that cottagers may be part of our tourism economy, but they are not going to be the future, the new business that we are supposed to be generating."

Micallef disagreed, saying cottagers had family and friends who came to visit.

"Anybody that becomes an advocate of the Haliburton Highlands is going to go out and sell it to anybody else," she said.

Reid said when cottagers have family and friends over, they stay at the cottage.

"That's the whole reason for the visit," she said.

"I think that's the way it used to be," Micallef responded. "I don't think it's necessarily the way now. People that cottage now want the activities, they want things to do. It's just trying to get that information into their hands."

Moffatt said shuffling of money could be looked at during budget discussions. County council will be reviewing the 2013 later this month.

Moffatt also said the issue of money that had been used to pay the department's former director needed to be "tidied up."

Last year, with the impending retirement of Bob Smith, council took \$80,000 out of the department budget.

Moffatt was the sole councillor who voted to leave the money where it was, reasoning that once it was taken out, it

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The Minden Times

Tourism development committee to expand

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

Haliburton County's tourism development committee is changing its composition, expanding to include local tourism stakeholders.

Barrie Martin and other members of the Haliburton Highlands Tourism Committee, a collective of tourism operators that meets a number of times each year to discuss ideas, paid a visit to committee members at their Jan. 9 meeting.

The group was seeking a formal relationship with the tourism development committee, which currently consists of the county's four reeves.

"The bottom line for us is how can we help?" said Martin, who acted as group spokesman. "We feel that a formal relationship between the two groups would result in a community-wide collaboration to build a sustainable tourism industry. It would provide you with first-hand, current information and insights as to what's happening on the ground and in the front lines as to tourism in this county."

Martin said it would give the county

a chance to provide information more directly to stakeholders, accommodate more ideas and be better able to respond to new opportunities, such as the upcoming Canadian National Pond Hockey Championships.

"Many of us have connections outside the local community," Martin continued, adding it would be a chance to bring those resources to the table.

He suggested a few ways the formal relationship could be structured, including the sharing of committee minutes, appointing a non-voting member of his committee to sit on the council committee, having tourism co-ordinator Maria Micallef or a councillor attend his group's meetings, or designating the group as an advisory committee to the county committee.

"There's been some murmuring on and off for some time about this topic, so your timing is perfect," said Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt, who was re-elected as committee chairwoman for the year at Wednesday's meeting.

Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid was voted vice-chairwoman.

"I think in some discussion with col-

leagues, what we'd like to propose is a bit of a collaborative committee, not unlike the accessibility committee and the library committee where there are members of the public on it," Moffatt said.

Terms of reference need to be fleshed out, but a preferred structure would be four representatives of council – not necessarily the four reeves – two members of Martin's group and another member of the public with an interest in tourism.

People will be asked to apply for this position.

"The tourism committee doesn't represent everyone . . . it represents most, but

not all," Moffatt said, adding that it was important the balance of the committee still consist of county representatives. "Otherwise you'll end up with the public telling the county how to spend its money and that's not the way it works."

Reid was concerned that new members needed to understand that committee meetings would continue to be held on Wednesday mornings.

"That's the condition under which we'd have to operate," she said.

Martin thought that would be fine. "It's quite a large group and there's lots of flexibility," he said.

EMS department improves response times

Director calls 2012 historic year

Chad Ingram
Staff reporter

The Haliburton County EMS department reduced its response times in 2012.

The average response time fell by almost two minutes, from 12 minutes and 28 seconds to 10 minutes and 30 seconds.

The county also improved its 90th percentile response time from 27 minutes and 34 seconds to 26 minutes and 43 seconds.

The time established by the province for the year was 26 minutes and four seconds. The county historically has problems meeting times set by the province because of its large size and small population. This year it begins setting its own targets.

EMS director Pat Kennedy called 2012 a historic year for his department, with four full-time paramedic positions being

added in September bringing the county's full-time staff to 24.

They provide more than 52,500 hours of scheduled service hours, with Minden and Haliburton manned 24 hours a day and Highlands East manned 16 hours a day.

The standby base in Tory Hill was completed on time and on budget and a number of paramedics graduated from an enhanced paramedic skills program.

The department's draft budget for 2013 includes an increase in the area of 3.4 per cent, or around \$72,000, related mostly to wage and benefit increases.

Kennedy said the draft includes a one per cent cost-of-living increase. Last year the province provided a 1.5 per cent cost-of-living increase.

The Ontario government traditionally funds the ambulance program at half of the previous year's budget.

Health costs for the county in the 2013 draft budget are approximately \$2.57 million, with net expenses for the EMS department accounting for \$2.195 million.

Contributions from the province are expected at around \$2.3 million.

County council will review the budget later this month.



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Parents cope with teachers' dispute

ETFO plans for "protest" were nixed and schools open, but buses cancelled due to weather

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

An early morning decision by the Ontario labour relations board put an end to a planned province wide elementary school teachers walkout for Friday in response to an imposed agreement by the education minister earlier this month.

However, by the time the decision was announced many parents in the Highlands had already turned to their child-care options.

Married mother of two children who attend Stuart Baker Elementary School in Haliburton, Sarah Adams feels fortunate to have family.

"We are blessed to have my parents who are available to spend time with my seven and five year old when needed; they were quick to accommodate having the children today so my husband and I can make our work meetings and appointments," she wrote in an email on Friday. "We often ask ourselves how other parents cope who don't have the same resources we do. Losing a day or two of wages a month can impact families in this community more than most people realize. Also, taking days off with little notice can jeopardize job security. Scary stuff!"

Adams and her husband, who both live in Haliburton, have some flexibility with their work.

"I have two part-time jobs, and [my husband] works close to 30 hours a week. Our schedules and supervisors are flexible and understanding, so if my parents were not available the one with the least commitments or things

to accomplish that day could stay home and make up the hours in the future," she said.

During the first job action when teachers walked out in December, Adams left her children in her parents' care who live down the road in West Guilford. They made the best of the day going to a horse farm, bowling alley, library and Tim Hortons.

Unlike Adams, Karra Wesley, who is married and runs her own business, doesn't have extended family and chose to stay home with her four-year-old daughter who attends Stuart Baker Elementary School.

She empathizes with the teachers and believes this action is necessary for not only themselves, but everyone who works in the province.

"Teachers are an easy, visible target and people should come together to demand fair, meaningful compensation from their employers and government. It's an issue in Haliburton as well," she said.

"This could have a domino effect and implications on other public sector employment and the other 'securities' we have worked towards as Ontarians and Canadians. I feel that although I am missing my income having to care for my child for a day or two ... that teachers are not only standing up for themselves but all of our rights and to not just see this as an inconvenience to myself," she said. "People need to be aware we are fortunate to have easily accessible and quality education as well as other benefits as Canadians such as our health care. We need to stand up and ensure these things that have been worked hard for remain for future generations."

Wesley, who cancelled two private lessons in the Village of Haliburton, runs Haliburton Language School and helps with online facilitation that requires her full attention during a session.

Besides family and a few private day cares, the Ontario Early Years Centre Children's Learning Centre is usually a day care option.

“

Teachers are an easy, visible target and people should come together to demand fair, meaningful compensation from their employers and government.

— Karra Wesley, parent and entrepreneur

Supervisor Gord Hoenow of what is formerly CHACE day care in Minden said the school age program is only run on scheduled professional activity days and school holidays in adherence to the centre's license as outlined by the ministry of education.

According to a web posting by the OEYC (on a popular buy and sell site), it will not be run for "any type of stop work action by the school board."

"The thing is I do take care of those school-aged children on PA days ... technically I do have the space here, but licensing wise, no," Hoenow said.

When the schools were opened he could take students for the morning program since the job action was cancelled. However, whenever the buses are cancelled due to the weather, he said, the after school program was also.

When the first job action occurred Hoenow said he had one parent inquire.

Up until Friday morning he wasn't certain about his own provision of services adhering to his license. He echoed the confusion felt by parents.

"We're just as confused as the parents," he said. "It's like everybody else. We're flustered too."

Haliburton County Home Builders 15th Annual Charity Hockey Tournament for the 4C's Haliburton and Minden Food Bank

Tournament Schedule:

DATE: January 25, 26 & 27, 2013

PLACE: SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena (Minden)

First game: Jan. 25th in Minden at 7:00 pm
Three divisions', good hockey, great fun; come out and watch. Admission for our tournament is by donation.

Music sponsored by Home Builders Association, both Friday and Saturday nights upstairs above the ice surface.

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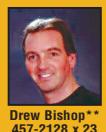
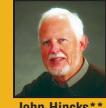
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- Driveway in, hydro/phone service at lot

Gary Moffatt 457-2128 x 36

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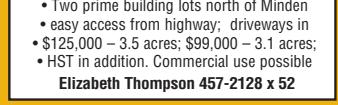
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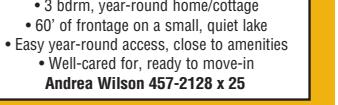
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Positive Space signs up in most area schools

Jenn Watt
Editor

The school board is moving forward

with inclusiveness resources and education around sexual orientation, including positive space signs in some schools, following consultation with parent councils.

At its January meeting, the school board

received a report from director of education Larry Hope outlining what communities say about the positive space signs and where the signs have been mounted.

In some cases, particularly with elementary schools hosting only primary grade students, the signs haven't been posted at all.

But that doesn't mean issues of equality and acceptance aren't being addressed, Hope said.

"We will be developing specific resources related to the signage," he said in an interview.

The signs read: "This is a place where all people are respected, and where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and two-spirited people, and their families, friends and allies are welcomed and supported."

Some of that terminology is too advanced for Grade 1 students, for example, Hope said, so new materials are being created to have those conversations with students.

In Haliburton County, discussions have happened at all of the schools around the signage with parents being mostly supportive.

Depending on feedback, signs were hung in various places around the school

"That was really a decision that principals were asked to make," Hope said.

At Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden, tone was "100 per cent supportive," according to Hope's report, and the

sign is now located in the main office.

At Cardiff Elementary School, there was mixed reaction to the sign and it is in the principal's office.

The sign is in the front hallway of J.D. Hodgson Elementary School, in the principal's office at Wilberforce Elementary School and outside of the main office at the high school in Haliburton.

Because Stuart Baker Elementary School in Haliburton serves just the primary grades, the sign has not yet gone up, though the parent community is "generally supportive" of it, according to the report.

"One of the things we discussed ... we want to proceed very slowly at our primary schools," Hope said.

SBES will be considering whether to put the sign up in the coming months.

Overall, the education director said the process of discussing the signs has been a constructive one across the board.

"Principals had wonderful opportunities to engage in discussions," he said.

"I think the best part of it is that we got people talking together."

All of the board's high schools have Gay Straight Alliance groups and all schools include education around acceptance and inclusiveness.

Five schools in the board had "extremely positive" discussions about the signs, 14 were generally positive, 18 had mixed results and three received feedback that there was not in support of the signs.

Community Care HALIBURTON COUNTY

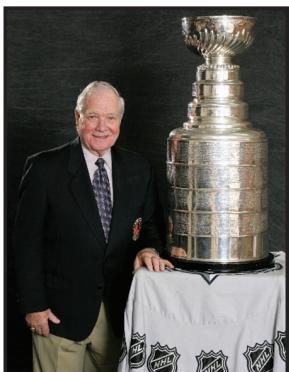
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Admission: By Donation

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Saturday February 2nd, 2013 8:00pm -12:00am

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Saturday, February 2nd

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Highlands East to host sustainable trails conference

Angelica Blenich

Staff reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the Jan. 8 meeting of Highlands East council.

The municipality is hoping to further their knowledge of trail management by hosting a sustainable trails conference sometime this spring.

The idea was proposed to councillors by Ken Hoeverman, president of the Ontario Federation of Trail Riders, as a way to learn about best ways to manage land and trails within Highlands East.

Hoeverman is proposing the conference be held sometime in April and include Off Highway Vehicle recreation management workshops.

He believes the event will attract between 50 to 100 people and is proposing to hold the conference at the Lloyd Watson Centre and McCausland Community Centre.

The event would be organized in conjunction with the municipality's trails committee, and would be planned with \$4,000 from the committee's budget.

Hoeverman is also seeking out other funding opportunities and believes there will be a surplus of sponsorships.

"I think this is a great opportunity to us with very little risk or cost," said Councillor Cec Ryall.

Council passed a resolution granting the use of the community centres free of charge and allowing the committee to use the \$4,000 for the conference.

Support for solar projects given

Council awarded support to 11 ground mount solar project applications for properties within Highlands East.

With support from the municipality, the applications will now move on to the Ontario Power Authority, which awards projects on a point system.

Site plan drawings for each project were provided to members of council by Renewable Environmental Energy Services, which councillors were grateful for.

"I'm very pleased with the set of drawings you've provided," said Councillor Joan see SITE page 19

Dig In workshops being offered

Growing, preparing and eating food has never been this much fun!

Are you interested in food? Have you always wanted to plant your own garden and don't know how to get started? Dig In is a 10-sessions workshop series being offered to anyone in Haliburton County who is interested in learning about growing and preparing delicious food. This comprehensive program focuses on teaching you:

- How to grow your own garden

- How to prepare different foods
- Tools and resource information to ensure effective growing
- Delicious recipe ideas
- Preserving, freezing and keeping your food
- Homemade foods such as bread and yogurt

The first session takes place at the Haliburton United Church on Jan. 24 from 1 to 4 p.m. and will focus on how to use grains to make a fruit loaf and energy bars. Store-

bought breads and energy bars can be expensive and if you want to eat healthy and inexpensively this is the workshop for you!

So come one out and get ready to Dig In to the enjoyment of food!

Some subsidized spots available, \$10 per class.

If you'd like more information about the Dig In series, please call 705-457-1742 or email Daniela_pagliaro@sirch.on.ca.

Visit www.haliburtonecho.ca for news updates

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RECR103

WILD EDIBLES FORAGING 101

Saturday May 25, 2013
10:00AM - 5:00PM
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LANG43
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Wednesdays, March 6 - May 8, 2013
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Anglers urged to use caution on ice

The New Year marks the long-anticipated start of hard water fishing season for thousands of Ontario anglers. Due to unseasonably inconsistent weather, the ice conditions on the majority of the Province's lakes and rivers cannot be considered safe. The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and the OPP want to remind anglers and anyone venturing onto frozen lakes and water bodies to put safety first.

"Ice fishing is a great way to enjoy the winter season, but anglers must be aware that ice conditions are constantly changing hour to hour, day to day and place to place," said Shannon Gutoskie, OFAH manager of communications. "It's good practice to have emergency equipment on hand so you're prepared for anything. Taking simple safety measures could save your life."

"We're asking anglers to use caution and common sense. The ice may look safe, but with rain and warm temperatures on the horizon, no ice can be considered 100 per cent safe for travel by foot and any motorized recreational vehicles or trucks, especially at this time of year," said Iain McEwan, media relations officer with Peterborough County OPP. "The message is simple. If you don't know, don't go."

Anglers are reminded to carry valid fishing, snowmobile and ATV licenses with them at all times. They should also be sure to review the 2013 Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary, available online and at MNR offices and license retailers.

With over 100,000 members, subscribers and supporters, and 675 member clubs, the OFAH is the province's largest nonprofit, fish and wildlife conservation-based organization, and the voice of anglers and hunters. For more information, visit www.ofah.org, like the OFAH on Facebook and follow them on Twitter.

Site plan drawings provided for project

from page 18

Barton, who had voted against the applications in previous meetings.

"I was being asked to support something not knowing what it would look like. I feel I can now give rational support to these projects," said Barton.

Deputy-reeve Suzanne Partridge and Ryall also expressed appreciation for the drawings.

"Had we received this right away you would have been further along," said Ryall.

Council voted unanimously in support of the projects.

Sports



Preparing the ice

Volunteer drivers clear snow from Head Lake in preparation for the upcoming Canadian Pond Hockey Championships over two weekends (Jan. 25 to 27 and Feb. 1 to 3). The event, which draws more than 1,500 people, is also at the Pinestone Resort. Volunteers are still needed. The Haliburton ATV Association helped last week.

Darren Lum Staff

Outdoor skating rink ready for use

Angelica Blenich
Staff reporter

It's time to lace up your skates.

While renovations continue at the Dysart arena in Haliburton Village, an outdoor skating rink is up and running with another planned for West Guilford.

Located at the baseball diamond next to the municipal office on Mountain Street, the rink was created by municipal staff as well as volunteer firefighters, who were flooding the ice on Jan. 7.

Kids were out enjoying the ice as of Jan. 4, said Dysart's chief administrative officer Tamara Wilbee.

Benches and an accessible outdoor washroom have been provided for those enjoying the winter facility.

"We're also working on getting the West Guilford one up and running," said Wilbee.

Once constructed, the outdoor skating rink will be located next to the West Guilford Community Centre and will include the old boards from the Dysart arena.

"We're trying to get some more outdoor options to make up for the lack of indoor skating," said Wilbee.

Municipal staff are hopeful those within the community will help pitch in where they can to maintain both ice rinks.

Shovelling, especially on weekends, is always welcome, said the CAO.

Neither rink is supervised, so parents are encouraged to accompany young children.



Angelica Blenich Staff

Dysart firefighters flood an outdoor rink at the baseball diamond in Haliburton Village on Jan. 7. The skating facility will be available for the winter season to accommodate ongoing renovations at the Dysart arena. The municipality's parks and recreation department is also planning on creating an outdoor rink in West Guilford.

The ice is available on a first come, first served basis. Space has been left open for parking next to the ice.

"If kids are playing pick-up hockey we're not going to be able to stop them but let's hope they keep the puck low and think about the windows," said Wilbee.

The municipality will be using the arena zamboni to

clear off the ice if weather permits, according to parks and recreation director Ray Mischio.

So far the response from the community has been overwhelmingly positive.

"People have been saying I hope when the arena's back you do this again," said Wilbee.


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Copies of cookbook are still available

West Guilford

Eleanor Cooper

754-2278

There is a new interest at Abbey Gardens. Two Montana ponies, "Chase" and "Sweet-grass" or "Sweets" for short have been installed in their paddock since before Christmas. It's possible for me to cut across fields and say hello to them in the mornings. The owners seem satisfied with their condition and the satisfaction seems to be mutual! The main focus this week seems to be on the rink-to-be at the centre.

The following was written by Carol Stamp, and I add that the list of guys willing to participate is growing. Some say only from time to time and that's fine. If you can't make it on a regular basis, once or twice is enough. The two names and numbers suggested below will contact you when it's all flooded and ready. Thanks for your positive response.

The Municipality of Dysart et al has been working on improving the ice rink at the West Guilford Recreation Centre. It is ready for flooding and the committee needs some volunteers to help co-ordinate the work. The municipality is willing to bring in a

water truck for the initial flood but before this happens the community will have to form a group of volunteers to oversee the rink and decide how best to keep it flooded and ploughed when necessary. If you are interested in seeing our community have a place for skating and pick-up hockey please contact either Carm Sawyer 705-754-2401 or Carol Stamp 705-754-2168. Perhaps the volunteer group could make suggestions on how best to schedule the usage of the rink so that both skating time and hockey time have their fair share. This rink is available throughout the day, and evening and lighting is available for evening use. Also there are still copies of the West Guilford cookbook available and can be purchased either at the West Guilford Shopping Centre or at Cranberry Cottage for \$10 each or by contacting Nancy Brink at 705-754-2416. They make great gifts.

The West Guilford Fundraising Group will soon be starting to sell tickets on their next draw for which all proceeds are used for community activities. The proceeds from last year's draw covered the cost of the West Guilford fireworks display on Canada Day. The volunteer committee will be making a decision on what to fund for the coming year and what the prizes will be for the draw to be held on July 1, 2013. When the decision is made the tickets will be printed and put on sale. Also although it is just January, the Canada Day committee have started to plan for this

coming July 1 celebration. If you have any new ideas or suggestions or would like to volunteer to sit on the Canada Day committee and help out with the event they would sure like to hear from you. Please contact Tanya Sisson at 705-457-1349. This event has been held annually since 1980. This will be our 34th year celebrating Canada's birthday in West Guilford. We are one of the oldest celebrations in the area and of course it takes community involvement to keep it going. It takes a lot of work but when the workload is divided among many it becomes much less work for each volunteer. Our very first Canada Day Citizen was Mr. Mac Prentice, principal of the West Guilford school and owner of Prentice Store in West Guilford, now the West Guilford Shopping Centre. "Mac" as he was known to young and old alike was a great community-minded person and it would be a shame to let his legacy of turning the old school into a community centre for all the community to use and enjoy and have a place to hold events down by not being able to keep it operating because of a lack of volunteers. If you have some time to donate to your community, contact any member of the committee. They would be happy to hear from you. The seven tables of euchre on Jan. 8 saw the following results: High - Iris Mischio and Robert McIvor. Low - Pearl Kernohan and Ed Muenzel. Most lone hands - Ann McIvor and Gerald Hadley.

End to NHL lockout

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

It's over.

The NHL season will begin Jan. 19 following a lengthy lockout.

Teams are attempting to win back disgruntled and frustrated fans with various freebies. Players are doing their best to show their appreciation.

Haliburton's Matt Duchene, a centre with the Colorado Avalanche, expressed his thoughts this past weekend on Twitter.

"Thank you to Mr. Don Fehr for his hard work and the rest of the boys who gave up their time to make sure we had a season. Hats off to you!" he tweeted. "And finally, thank you Avs and all other #NHL fans who stuck with us through this. It was tough to say the least! You are the best."



Stamp competition

Help Carnarvon youth Beth Foster, 14, win the Canada Post stamp design competition with "The Healing of Harms." Show your support through online venues (Facebook and social media sites) such as "liking" it at www.deliverhope.ca/gallery/view/30/popup. She could win money towards a registered education savings plan and a gift card to Toys R Us.

Submission for entries deadline is Feb. 1. This is a fundraising initiative to raise money for the Canada Post Community Foundation, which inspires and supports Canadian children's charities.

For more information see www.deliverhope.ca.

Submitted

Visitors welcome to men's bonspiel

The 54th Skyline Men's Curling Bonspiel Jan. 18, 19 and 20 will be played at the Haliburton Curling Club.

This men's bonspiel has 24 teams from across the province competing for four trophies and prizes.

Play starts at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 18, continues all day Saturday and on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The finals are at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Visitors are welcome.

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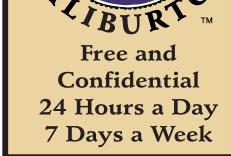
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Fast and furious battle between Peewee A Storm and Otters

It was an exciting night of hockey in Minden on Saturday night. On the surface it was a meaningless game. It was the final game of the season that had no bearing on the upcoming play-downs or even the newly structured MPS finals, that is now a restructured tournament to be held in Huntsville next weekend.

Winning or losing had no bearing on anything to come but try telling Smolen Dentistry's Peewee A team and the Huntsville Otters that.

The game opened with a fast and furious pace that didn't let up until the final seconds had slowly ticked away. Both goalies had unbelievable games. Josh Bellefleur was remarkable, making difficult saves from all angles matched only by the goaltending at the other end.

The first period ended without a goal but plenty of action. In the second period the game opened up and Huntsville was able to capitalize on the opportunities awarded them through the power-play. Owen Smith quickly evened the score with a shot from the slot that rolled over the shoulder of the unsuspecting goalie.

Another power play let Huntsville invade the blue line and score on a screened shot through the pads of Bellefleur but with less than a minute to go, Alex Petrie tied it up again by banging in a nice feed from Josh Boice after a flurry of action around the Huntsville net.

In the third period, Josh Boice made a nice rush that ended with the puck just barely squeaking through the pads of the outstretched Huntsville goalie.

The remainder of the game was an end-to-end battle and our entire team stood up to the onslaught of pressure that confronted them.

With the Huntsville goalie pulled to add an extra player, the final minute ended with a pile of bodies in front of our net, but the puck mercifully remained outside.

From top to bottom, it was one of our best games of the season and a great example of how well our team can and will need to play from here on out. Only this time, from here on out, the games will actually mean something.

Submitted by Jon Petrie

Girls' team prepares for play-downs

The Minden Car Quest/Canadian Tire midget BB girls' hockey team received some good news this week. Their application for reclassification to Midget B was approved for provincial play-downs. The Storm girls play their last league game on the road Sunday night against Leaside. The last meeting was a close contest with the Storm squad squeaking out a 1-0 win with just seconds left in the game. Be sure to keep the focus, ladies, as we prepare for provincial play-downs that will be held Championship weekend with the Women's Hockey World Championship.

Submitted by Dan Marsden

Midgets to play round robin this weekend

The Complete Roofing/TimBr Mart Major Midget team completed a successful regular season this past weekend. The team finished on top of their division with a 13-4-1 record in the Muskoka Parry Sound loop. This team entered two tournaments where they also claimed the championships: our home Cody Hodgson fall classic and the Brian English Memorial in Elmvale. Thanks to the coaching staff of John, Rod, Jeff and Ed for their leadership and patience. This weekend they will be headed for a year-end round robin tourney with the MPS loop and then on to the OMHA play-downs. Our first home game will be against Parry Sound on Saturday, Jan. 26 at 6 p.m. in Minden.

Submitted by Wendy Sisson



Storm major midget team. Photo submitted by Wendy Sisson.

Novices get to be Pete for a day

On Saturday, Jan. 12, the Storm had the opportunity to be a Future Pete for the day, we travelled to the Memorial Arena home of the Peterborough Petes. They had a tour of the Petes' dressing room, got to experience being interviewed, met a Pete player and played a game against the Petes' Novice team. It was a well-matched game, and fun for all, Emily Alexander scored her first goal of the season to tie our game, way to go! On Sunday it was back to Gravenhurst to play the South Muskoka Bears. The Storm came out to play hard for their last regular season game. The Bears get on the board early with three goals in the first. They start off the second period with another goal. Hunter Winder scores assisted by Kyan Hall late in the second. Again, the Bears score early in the third, Nick Phippen scores assisted by Winder

see ATOM page 24

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Atom As to participate in MPS tournament

from page 23

and Emily Alexander making the score 5-2, the Bears come back with one more ending the game 6-2.

Submitted by Trisha Phippen

Highland Storm Atom As defeat Lindsay Muskies

The Highland Storm Peppermill Atom A team travelled to compete in the three day Peterborough Lift Lock Tournament over the weekend.

The boys came out strong in their first game on Friday as they defeated the Lindsay Muskies 4-0. Goals were scored by Alex Little, Nigel Smith (2) and Benn MacNaull with assists from Cole Prentice, Alex Little and Paul Turner. Impressive goaltending by Dylan Keefer backed by strong defence (Ethan Glecoff, Isaac Little, Ryan Hall and Miki Bukta) resulted in a shut-out for the team! The boys met the Ottawa Silver Sevens for their second game of the tournament on Saturday morning.

The boys played hard and were on their game but just couldn't bring the opposition down. The score of 2-7 for Ottawa (who later went on to win the tournament in the division) was not a reflection of the Storm's efforts as they put forth a great fight. Both goals for the Storm scored by Zach Morissette with assists from Carter Bull (2), Isaac Little and Joe Boice.

The second game of the day the Highland Storm met the Huntsville Otters. Knowing they would have to defeat



Highland Storm Atom A team celebrates in the change room after winning the 'B Final' in their division at the Peterborough Liftlock Tournament. Pictured from left to right are: back row: Head Coach Mike MacNaull, Assistant Coach Clay Glecoff, Carter Bull, Miki Bukta, Cole Prentice, Alex Little, Ryan Hall, Menn MacNaull, Trainer Greg Turner. front row: Zach Morissette, Joe Boice, Ethan Glecoff, Dylan Keefer, Isaac Little, Nigel Smith and Paul Turner. Missing, Assistant Trainer Tim Keefer. Photo by Fraenzi Morissette

the Otters to advance to the qualifier for the consolation round. The boys came out determined to win! Never having defeated the Otters this season the coaches knew the

boys' work would be cut out for them and work they did! Not ready to go home the boys dominated the game much to everyone's surprise (Huntsville included)! With a final score of 3-1 for Storm the boys happily advanced! Goals scored by Ryan Hall, Paul Turner and Zach Morissette and assists from Joe Boice and Benn MacNaull (2).

The boys arrived early Sunday morning for the qualifier to the consolation round meeting the South Muskoka Bears (another rival from the MPS loop). Staying strong throughout the game and never giving up resulted in yet another win for the Storm!

Final score 5-3 with goals from Paul Turner, Nigel Smith, Joe Boice, Ryan Hall and Benn MacNaull. With assists from Zach Morissette (2), Joe Boice and Nigel Smith.

The Storm then met the Collingwood Hawks for the Kawartha Credit Union consolation final. Both teams came out strong and determined to win! A back-and-forth game and well-matched teams kept spectators on the edge of their seats and cheering throughout the game. The first goal of the game, scored by Ryan Hall, put the boys in good spirits but Collingwood scored two quick goals to make it 2-1 for the opposition.

Just when it looked as if the game would end in their opponents' favour, Isaac Little made a quick pass to fellow defenceman Miki Bukta for a goal, and forced the game into overtime! The pace remained fast in OT even though both teams were visibly exhausted. Making a final pass Benn MacNaull hands off to Joe Boice for the game winner! The Atom A team was able to prove that with lots of heart, determination and teamwork they can accomplish their goals!

Special thanks to their dedicated coaches and trainers Mike MacNaull, Clay Glecoff, Greg Turner and Tim Keefer. Next weekend the boys will travel to Parry Sound to participate in the MPS tournament.

Let's go Storm!

Submitted by Jenn Little

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Notices

NOTICE (Applicant – CHICHON)

IN THE MATTER OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT AND IN THE MATTER OF A PROPOSED BY-LAW OF THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF HIGHLANDS EAST TO CLOSE, STOP-UP AND CONVEY CERTAIN PORTIONS OF AN ORIGINAL ALLOWANCE FOR ROAD ALONG THE SHORE OF MONMOUTH LAKE, MORE PARTICULARLY HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the *Municipal Act*, S.O. 2001, and the Municipal Procedures, that the Township Council of The Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East proposes to consider and if deemed advisable, to pass at its regular meeting to be held at the Council chambers, **WILBERFORCE**, Ontario on **Tuesday, the 12th day of FEBRUARY, 2013** at 9:00 a.m., a By-Law to close, stop-up and convey to the adjacent land owners the following described lands:

Part of the Original Shore Road Allowance in front of Lot 26, concession 1, Township of Monmouth, Municipality of Highlands East, County of Haliburton, shown as Part 1 on a Preliminary Plan of Survey made by Greg Bishop, O.L.S., dated July 4, 2012.

The Preliminary Plan of Survey as referred to above is available for inspection during regular office hours (9:00 a.m. To 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday) at the Municipality of Highlands East offices, Wilberforce, Ontario.

The above described lands, by resolution, have been declared to be surplus.

AND TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that before passing the said By-Law at the meeting to be held at the time and place above mentioned, the Municipality of Highlands East shall then and there hear in person or by his or her counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his, her or their lands will be prejudicially affected by the said By-Law and who applies to be heard in person. The person who wishes to address Council should contact the Township office for delegation time.

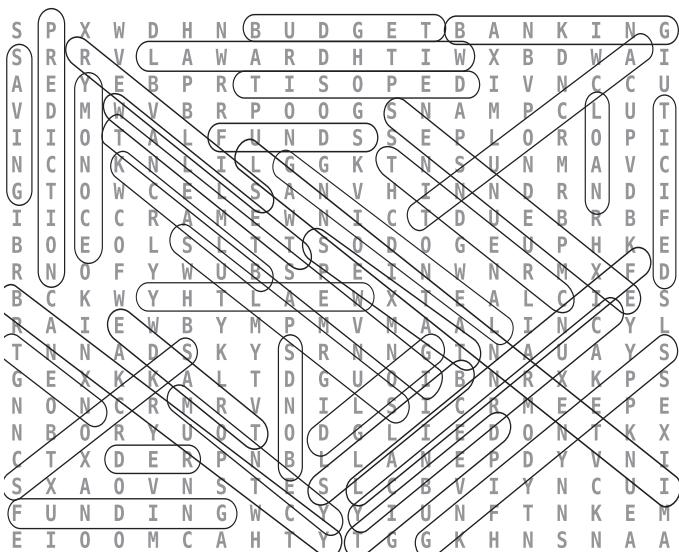
DATED at the Municipality of Highlands East, Wilberforce, Ontario this 8th day of January, 2013.

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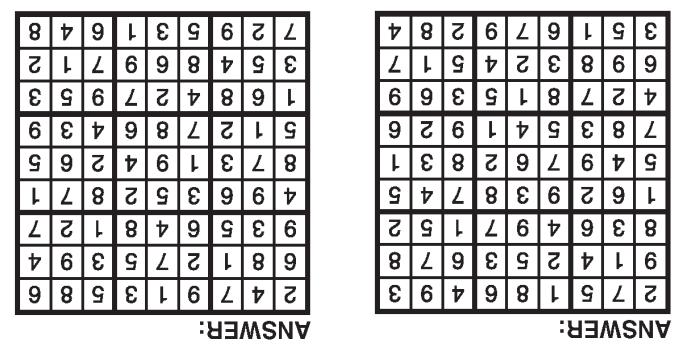
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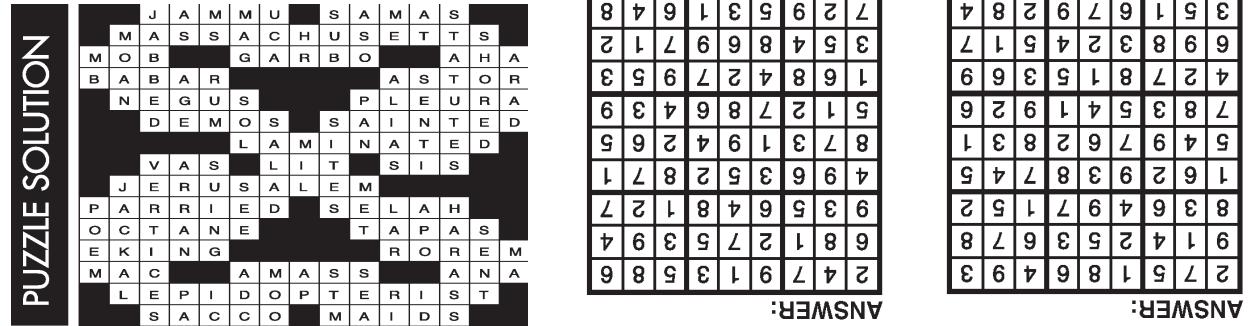
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Coming Events



community calendar

Post your event for free on the web. Go to: www.mindentimes.ca or Community Calendar link at: www.haliburtonecho.ca

Free Public Skating: Every Sunday (and Wednesday) 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. S.G Nesbitt Memorial Centre. Ice is open to the public. Bring the whole family out for some great fun! For more information call 705-286-1936

Table Tennis in Minden Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 3 pm. the upper level of the Minden Community Centre. The cost in Minden is \$3.00 per day. In Haliburton we play Monday nights from 6 to 9 pm. on the lower level of St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain Street. The cost is \$5.00 per night plus \$15 half-yearly to cover the insurance cost for the church. Dates: From January 2nd to June 26th. Contact: Vasha Rehacek @ 705-754-3834

Jan19: Mini Buck Bid Euchure located at the Bobcaygeon Senior Citizens Center 100 Head Street. Will host a MINI BUCK BID EUCHRE Saturday January 19, 7 P.M. Everyone welcome for information call Phil 705-738-6271

Jan 20: Razzamataz: The Wind in the Willows beginning at 2:00p.m. Northern Lights Theatre. Tickets – Adults: \$8, Kids: \$6, Under 2: Free www.razzamataz.ca

Jan 25, 26 and 27: 15th Annual Charity Home Builders Hockey Tournament. "NEW LOCATION" - S G Nesbitt Arena, Minden Ontario. For more information call Aggie Tose info@hchba.ca or 705-457-6901

Jan 31: Bobcaygeon Senior Citizens Centre Fund Raisers. We have scheduled a bus to Casino Rama this is a Fund Raiser for our Seniors Centre. The cost is \$2.00 for the bus and Buffet lunch. Departing at 8:30 from 100 Head Street Bobcaygeon and returning at 4:15. Come join us for fun on the bus. Contact Judy: 705-738-4490

Feb 1-3: 5th Annual Scotty Morrison Charity Hockey Tournament. Located at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena, Minden. All proceeds benefit senior and adults with disabilities in our local community. Contact: Hilary@
cchaliburton.com 705-457-2941

Feb 2: Minden and District Horticultural Society's Annual Pot Luck Luncheon, beginning at 12:00 noon. Located at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 7 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden. Speaker TBA, please bring a dish to share and your own place setting. Come join us to learn what exciting things we have planned for this new season. For more information call Rose at 705 286 3157 or Sandra at 705 286 1439

Experience winter with group sleigh rides

Wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

Fog. Rain. Fog. Ice under foot. Fog. Not just an old fashioned January thaw though. Seems more like early spring this past weekend.

At least there is still skating and hockey at the arena and curling in its rink so it must be winter.

If it does snow, bringing real winter back, and surely it will, then give Irvin

Holland a call and organize a group sleigh ride at his place in Essenville. Call 705-448-9078 or his cellphone 705-457-6048 in case he is out with the horses. That would be a fine way to experience real winter.

For curlers, being able to get down to deliver the rocks is now no longer a necessity. They often use a curling stick to get the rocks down the ice. It's a bit like shuffle board on ice.

On Monday, Jan. 21 from 2 to 4 p.m. there will be a stick curling social at the Wilberforce Curling Club. Doug Stephen

and Dave Watson will help curlers and would-be curlers learn how to curl using the stick and enjoy having fun and fellowship at the local club.

Tai chi continues at the LWMC on Wednesdays from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Contact Julia at 705-286-1444 for information about joining this healthy program.

Another reminder that the AGM of the Wilberforce Heritage Guild will be held on Monday, Jan. 21 at the Wilberforce Red Cross Outpost Historic House. It begins at 7 p.m. but coffee/tea and snacks will be ready by 6:30 p.m.

All are welcome to come out and support the volunteers who operate the museum.

For those with Scottish genes or just those who enjoy things Scottish the celebration of the birth of poet Robbie Burns will be enjoyed. Though his birth was on Jan. 25 the celebration with dinner at the Wilberforce Legion will be this Saturday, Jan. 19.

Always a fine meal including the haggis being piped in. And for only \$12.

Call the Legion at 705-448-2221 for tickets or information.

Register for the lake trout ice fishing derby



Legion br. 624

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p.m. Spaghetti dinner 5 to 7
- Come to play or listen to great music
Saturday Jam Session 7 p.m.
p.m. Meat Draw 2 to 5
Robbie Burns Dinner

- Refreshments 6 p.m. - Dinner 6:30 p.m.
\$12/person.

Upcoming Events
Annual Robbie Burns Dinner - Saturday, Jan. 19 - Refreshments 6 p.m. - Dinner 6:30 p.m.

\$12 per person - purchase in advance at the Legion or at the door.

Pat and Phyllis Gallen Lake Trout Ice Fishing Derby - Saturday, Jan. 26 - Register at the Legion before closing Friday, Jan. 25 or at the Fishes Lunch Box by 10 a.m., Saturday, Jan. 26. Weigh-in time 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Legion. Cash prize lakes: Farquhar, Wilbermere, Miskwabi, Esson and Grace. Come out and enjoy the first ice fishing event of the New Year.

Coming Events

Sunday, January 20th, 2013
Northern Lights Theatre
2:00 PM

Rag and Bone
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for details see www.razzamataz.ca

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Kindergarten Registration

January 21 to February 1, 2013



What do I need to bring to the school?

- Proof of age for each child
- Name and phone number for family doctor
- Ontario Health Card number (optional)
- Child's immunization record
- Residence road name and 911 address

Junior Kindergarten students must be 4 years old by December 31, 2013.

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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Engagements

Engagements



Mr. & Mrs.
GREG COUMBS
are proud to announce
the engagement of
their youngest daughter
Stacey Amy Lynne
to
David Breen Swanton
son of
GREG & CLAIRE SWANTON
of Toronto, Ont.

Thank You Cards

Thank You Cards

On behalf of our Mom Jeanne L. Bowron our family is deeply grateful to so many; Our thanks to Doctor Tina Stephenson for her kind and compassionate care of Mom. Thank you to the staff at Haliburton Hospital and to all the staff at Highland Wood, for the friendship, love and special care and attention Mom received.

To everyone for the food, calls, cards, hugs and words of comfort and support during a difficult time. A special thank you to Lenore Prentice for her unending love and support.

To Pastor Ross Fogwell for his warmth and caring words of comfort during Mom's funeral service, and to Debbie Fogwell for playing such beautiful music.

To the staff at Monk's Funeral Home, with special thanks to Barry Cray for his guidance, support and understanding.

To the ladies at Pioneer Baptist Church, Norland, for the delicious and bountiful luncheon.

To Mom's pall bearers Kevin (son), John Fountain (son-in-law), Leisa Neely (granddaughter) and lifelong friends, Clayton Cameron, Jerry McKelvey and Royce Miller.

Thank you to all who attended Mom's funeral visitation and funeral service.

Our family sincerely hopes we have not missed anyone who deserves our heartfelt Thank You.

Heather, John, Kevin and Carol

Pay your respects... on *yourlifemoments.ca*

Deaths

**McMULLIN, George Donald –
Former Operation Supervisor
with Dufferin County
Road Department**

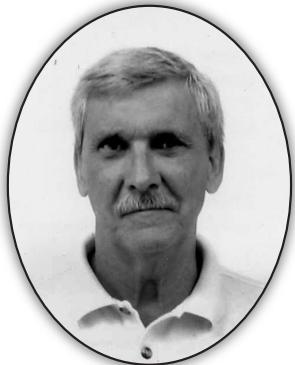
Suddenly at his residence on January 8, 2013. George McMullin, beloved husband of Yvonne, loving father of Tim (and Leah) of Erin, grandfather of Jamie, Lynsey and Carleigh. He was predeceased by his siblings: Ivor (Lena), Jean (and Russell Simpson), Russell (and Dorothy) and Norma (and Dorothy) and Norma (and Ron Fludder). Cremation has taken place with interment of cremains later in the spring.

In memoriam

Don Hall

From Minden

In loving memory of a wonderful Husband, Father, Gramps and Best Friend who left us January 19, 2011

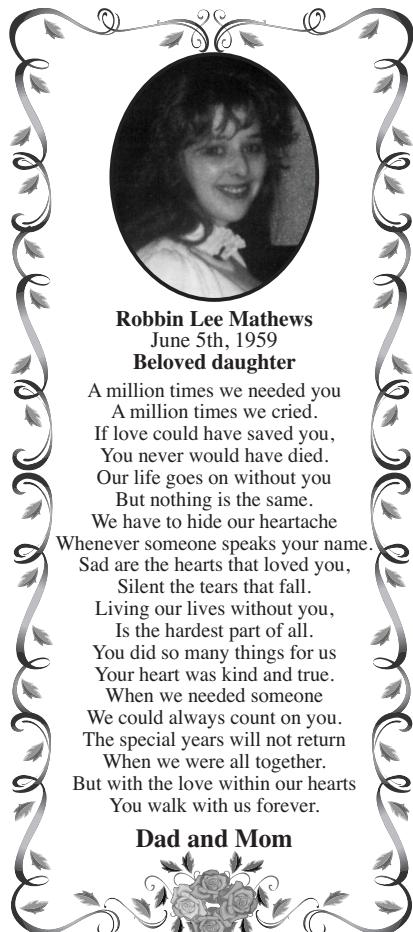


This day is remembered and quietly kept,
No words are needed, we shall never forget,
For those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day.
Unseen and unheard, but always near,
So loved, so missed, and so very dear.

Sadly missed and loved forever!

Eleanor, Stewart, Jenny, Glenn, Heather and Julie
Chris, Andrew, Ryan, Caitlin and Owen
Family and Friends

In memoriam



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127 Main St., Minden

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- Family and reception centre
- Kids play room
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- Affordable cost options

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Thank You Cards

THANK YOU

The family of the late Helen Campbell would like to thank the wonderful staff of Extendicare for their superb care, kindness and concern for her comfort during her stay and especially for her final days. Sincere thanks also to the Haliburton United Church choir who presented such beautiful music during Helen's service. Thanks also to Dr Bottum for his care of Helen over the past few years. THE CAMPBELL AND ARNOT FAMILIES.

JACK N' JILL

Have Something to Announce?
Let us help you
Call Classifieds: 1 866 541 6757

Deaths

WINDSOR, Helen R. (nee Morency) -

Passed away suddenly at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre on Saturday, January 5, 2013, at the age of 87. Beloved wife of Garth. Dear mother of Sandra and her husband Roger Kniffen of Chatham, Christine and her husband Jim Swartz of Owen Sound, Dwayne and his wife Claire Aldred of Majorca, Spain, Mark and his wife Irene of Barrie. Loving grandma of Kelly, Jocelyn, Carter, Catherine, Tyler, Jamie-Lee, Steven, Amanda and great grandma of Whitney, Victoria, Jordyn, Logan, Cole, Bryce, Brianne, Brooke, Madison, Mikalah, Lilah, Cora Belle and Riley. Dear sister of Theresa, Armand, Albert, Jane and predeceased by Ernest, Paul and Florence. Fondly remembered by her nieces, nephews, family and friends. Friends are invited to visit the family at the **GORDON A. MONK FUNERAL HOME LTD.**, 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Friday from 3:00 until 6:00 pm and then on Saturday, January 12, 2013 from 10:00 am until the time of the Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, 7 Bobcaygeon Rd, Minden at 11:00 am. Spring Interment at Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery. Memorial Donations to the Canadian Diabetes Association would be appreciated by the family.

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Marriages

Marriages

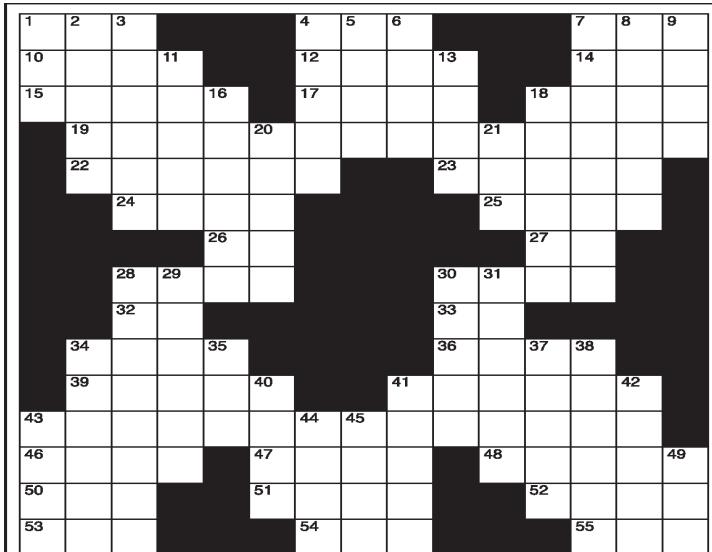
50th

An anniversary is a time to celebrate
the joys of today, the memories of
yesterday, and the hopes of tomorrow
Your Family Are Wishing You
Many More Tomorrows.

**Happy 55th
Anniversary**
Mom & Dad

Love Always
Alberta, Bernie, Cheryl, David,
Erin & Families





CLUES ACROSS

- Tooth caregiver
- Greek counterpart of Rhea
- A numbered mail compartment (abbr.)
- New Zealand parrots
- Political action committees
- Fringe-toed lizard
- Reposes
- Winglike structures
- MacMurray of "My Three Sons"
- Oprah's Broadway show
- Caesar, egg and tossed
- Oarlock
- Agile, lively (nautical)
- Skim or dart
- And, Latin
- Embodies
- Gallivants
- Hyperbolic cosecant
- Rural delivery
- Atomic #89
- Opposite of wealthy
- Imus and Knotts
- Yellow ageratum species
- Large tropical Am. lizard
- Late Show star
- Armor breastplate
- "Death in the Family" author
- Liquors from rice
- Bread for a burger
- Yeast
- 100 = 1 tala in W. Samoa
- Two-year-old sheep
- Hyrax or cony
- Engine additive

CLUES DOWN

- Danish krone (abbr.)
- Insect repellents
- Move sideways
- October's birthstones
- Alto, California city
- Mark of healed tissue
- Somewhat purple
- Egg mixture cooked until just set
- Past tense of bid
- Ancient stone slab bearing markings
- 9th month (abbr.)
- Thrown into a fright
- A playful antic
- "Waiting for Lefty" playwright
- Ultrahigh frequency
- Cutting gun barrel spirals
- Youth loved by Aphrodite
- Get by begging
- Cleans by scrubbing vigorously
- Bubonic calamity
- Radioactivity unit
- Bow (Sanskrit)
- Legless reptiles
- Thick piece of something
- A distinct part of a list
- Regarding (Scottish prep.)
- Something that is owed
- Mild exclamation
- River in Spain
- Variation of 17 down

FUEL WORD SEARCH

WORDS

ALTERNATIVES	HEAT
APPLIANCE	HYDRO
BUDGET	MANUAL
BURN	MINING
COAL	NATURAL GAS
COMFORT	OIL
CONSERVATION	PELLETS
COOLING	POLLUTION
DRILLING	POWER
ELECTRICITY	RESOURCES
ENERGY	SCARCE
ENVIRONMENT	SOLAR
FIRE	SUPPLEMENTAL
FOSSIL	THERMOSTAT
FUEL	UTILITY
GASOLINE	WARMTH
GENERATION	WIND
GREEN	WOOD

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

SUDOKU

1	3	8				2		
	8		3			9		
7			6					
	3	8				7		
9	6		5					
	4					1		
9		1	7	8		3		
8	2		4		7	9		

Level: Intermediate

SUDOKU

1	9		2					
			8	1	9			
3						2		
2	7					5		
			4	9				
5						1	3	
						4	6	
3			1	9	8			
			7	6				

Level: Intermediate

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\$450,000



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Boat/fish from 1350sf home/cottage. Village edge convenience. Lots to offer! Garage, Bunkie & more!

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SAND BEACH-DRAG LAKE

Beautiful lot, sunny facing south. "As is" cabin, year round road. Build your Dream!

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LEVEL LOT-SAND BEACH!

Magnificent Haliburton Lake. 110' rippled sand beach. Perfect new cottage location.

\$329,900



HALIBURTON LAKE

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MOUNTAIN LAKE, WILBERFORCE

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\$269,000**



MOUNTAIN LAKE, MINDEN

Breathtaking view, Clean sand/rock shoreline. Level lot. Driveway in. Old cottage on site.

\$249,000



FEATURE-FULL HOME

R2000 Home in Gooderham. Bright. Full Bsmt, Insul Dbl Grg, generator & panel, alarm system & more!

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BUCKSLIDE ROAD

Nice, bright family home. Level private 1 acre lot. Open concept kitchen/dining/living. Lots of windows, 2+1BR, Wood cabinetry, laminate flooring, recrmn With walkout. Recent upgrades, some finishing required. Sold AS IS. Great value.

\$152,900



VILLAGE VALUE

Convenient to Haliburton or Bancroft. 2+1BR, spacious living, basement, carport & more.

\$138,800



TIDY HOME - GELERT ROAD

Renovated 1+1 BR, 5 min from village. Full fin bsmt. Level lot, view of the lake. Ideal starter!

\$137,900



OWN YOUR OWN!

Great little starter home. 2+1BR, 4pc. Full Bsmt, Dr. Well, Septic. Irondale.

\$118,000



GETAWAY TO THE GULL

8 acres/cabin on the hilltop with view! Several building sites. Great retreat, pretty location. 3km to Minden.

\$105,000



RESIDENTIAL LOT

Very nice lot w/drive & site cleared. Upscale location & Head Lake access.

\$84,900



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SKI AREA LOT

Nicely treed, 1.76 Ac. Close to public beach on Eagle Lake and next to the ski hill. Great for home or cottage.

\$37,900



LONG LAKE ROAD LOT

Treed building lot near public access to Long Lake. Close to Haliburton. Yr rnd road.

\$22,000



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\$15,000 OR \$16,000



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QUESTION: How can you be sure that there are no defects in the title when you purchase land?

ANSWER: When buying land, you should always have the public land records checked to insure that title to the real estate you are buying is free from defects, such as, a "missing heir" who has failed to sign a deed in the chain of title, or unpaid taxes. If there are any mortgages or other liens against the property, they will also be discovered.

Normally, unpaid taxes and liens pose no problem because they are withheld from the purchase price and paid—often through the Realtor's escrow account—to the creditor at the closing.

IT IS IMPORTANT to both the buyer AND the seller that there be no defects in the title.

